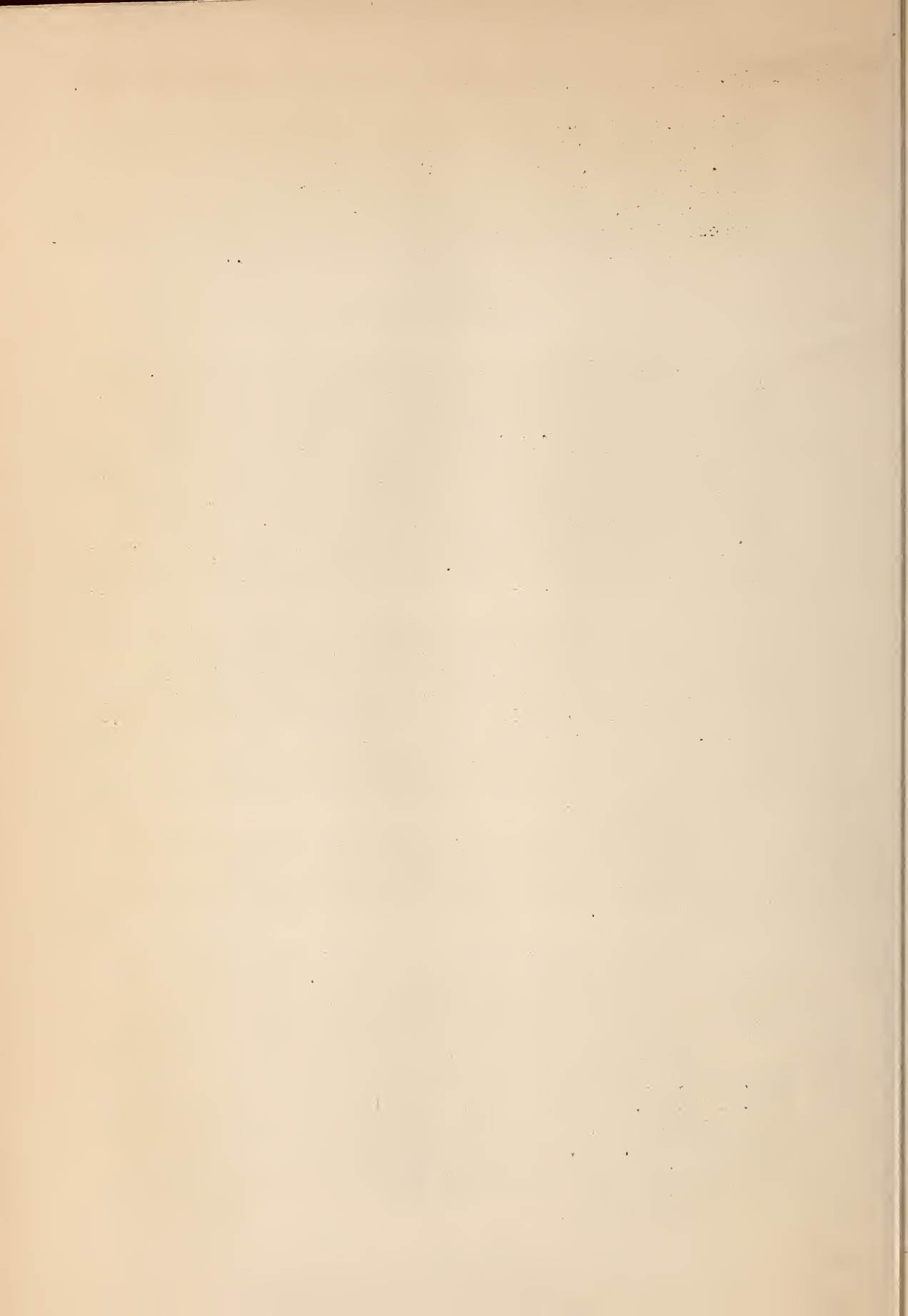


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# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XXXII, No. 61

Section 1

March 15, 1929.

## THE SECRETARY ON THE RADIO

Secretary Hyde spoke to a nation-wide farm radio audience last night, as a part of the program of the American Farm Bureau radio community meeting. The press to-day reports that the Secretary said in part: "The farmers of America are brought together for consideration of farm problems. The proper solutions of those problems are not solely the concern of farmers. The problems are national in scope. The solutions, or lack of solutions, of them will be national in effect. More vitally than any other industry, the welfare of agriculture is a concern for the whole Nation. Agriculture is America's greatest industry. It employs more people, requires larger investment, renders a more immediately vital service than any other industry. It is the most intensely American industry. The farm is the most fertile soil for these doctrines of individualism and nationalism which are so fundamentally American...After the farmer has successfully met the problems of production, there remain serious problems of marketing and of distribution on such a basis as to return to the farm adequate compensation for the service rendered. We have learned the lesson that the individual farmer can not successfully grapple alone with all the problems of his entire industry...

"Ten days ago I undertook the duties of Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture. I did so with full realization of its difficulties and with solemn recognition of my own limitations. I want to work with you. I want the Department of Agriculture to render an increasing service to the farm. I want to be of some service, howsoever small, in effectuating the agricultural policies of our great President. As outlined in his public addresses, those policies are sound and constructive. I believe they will achieve a larger measure of prosperity for the farmer."

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## SENATOR MCNARY'S TALK

Senator McNary said in his talk over the radio in the American Farm Bureau's program last night: "...Farm organizations were until recent years officially unknown at Washington...But immediately after the World War the condition of agriculture became so alarming that the farm organizations set up at Washington their permanent headquarters and have been doing exceedingly effective work in behalf of agriculture ever since...The work of these representatives has been entirely helpful and constructive...There is a commendable amount of teamwork among the farm representatives at Washington. Of course, it is frequently stated that farmers are never able to agree, but it is gratifying to be able to say that farmers, as a group, are more nearly in agreement at this moment on the fundamental questions relative to agriculture than can be observed in commerce and industry..."

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## Section 2

Efficient  
Farming

Frank M. Byers, a graduate of the agricultural college of the University of Illinois, and manager of a large farm near Moline, Ill., is the author of a long article entitled "Making the Farm Pay" in Scientific American for April. By way of a summary of his statements, the author says: "In industry there are certain economic laws which govern profit. Accounting records on farms also show that there are economic laws and accepted methods of procedure which influence profit in agriculture. Briefly stated, the factors which make for efficient farming are as follows: Large crop yields; growing valuable crops; amount of livestock; efficient livestock; efficient feeding of livestock; large volume of business; efficient use of man labor; fitting power to farm needs; minimum building and equipment costs; efficient field and building arrangement; diversity of production; improved quality and better price; farm quality and better price; farm budgeting; farm bookkeeping...Most farmers can get help in farm accounting work from their county agents and agricultural colleges. Farmers who are now successful are usually men of exceptional education who are capable managers. Men of similar ability in the industry world would receive much greater incomes. Successful farmers have often spent years in improving their soil, developing efficient herds of livestock, and in equipping their farms for economical operation. Some improvements can be made rather rapidly, while others, such as making the soil and herds more productive, may take several years. Even though it takes time to get results, the effort is not only justified, but is essential to complete success in the effort to increase the income from the farm."

## Farm Labor

Pointing to seven years of success in recruiting and directing "harvest hands" from one section to another and from State to State, the farm labor division of the Federal Department of Labor says that with an additional \$55,000 a year it could serve the farm labor needs of virtually the entire Nation. In its report for 1928, filed with the Secretary of Labor, recommendation is made for "a sufficient appropriation." Although the harvest in the central wheat belt, annually requiring the services of more than 100,000 hands, is the division's biggest task, it rapidly is extending aid to all major harvests. The first field of operation is in the 60,000-acre strawberry area of Missouri and Arkansas. The labor needs of the strawberry areas of Louisiana, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee also receive careful consideration. Then comes the wheat harvest in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, continuing northward to North Dakota. After the harvesting and threshing of wheat and allied grains, the gathering of the sugar beet crop, the digging of potatoes, the gathering of apples and other fruits, and harvesting the important corn crop make heavy demands upon the service. Last year, at a per capita cost of about 12 cents, or a total of \$65,000, the division recruited for seasonal harvesting and directed to general farm work, 559,571 men. (A.P., Mar. 14.)

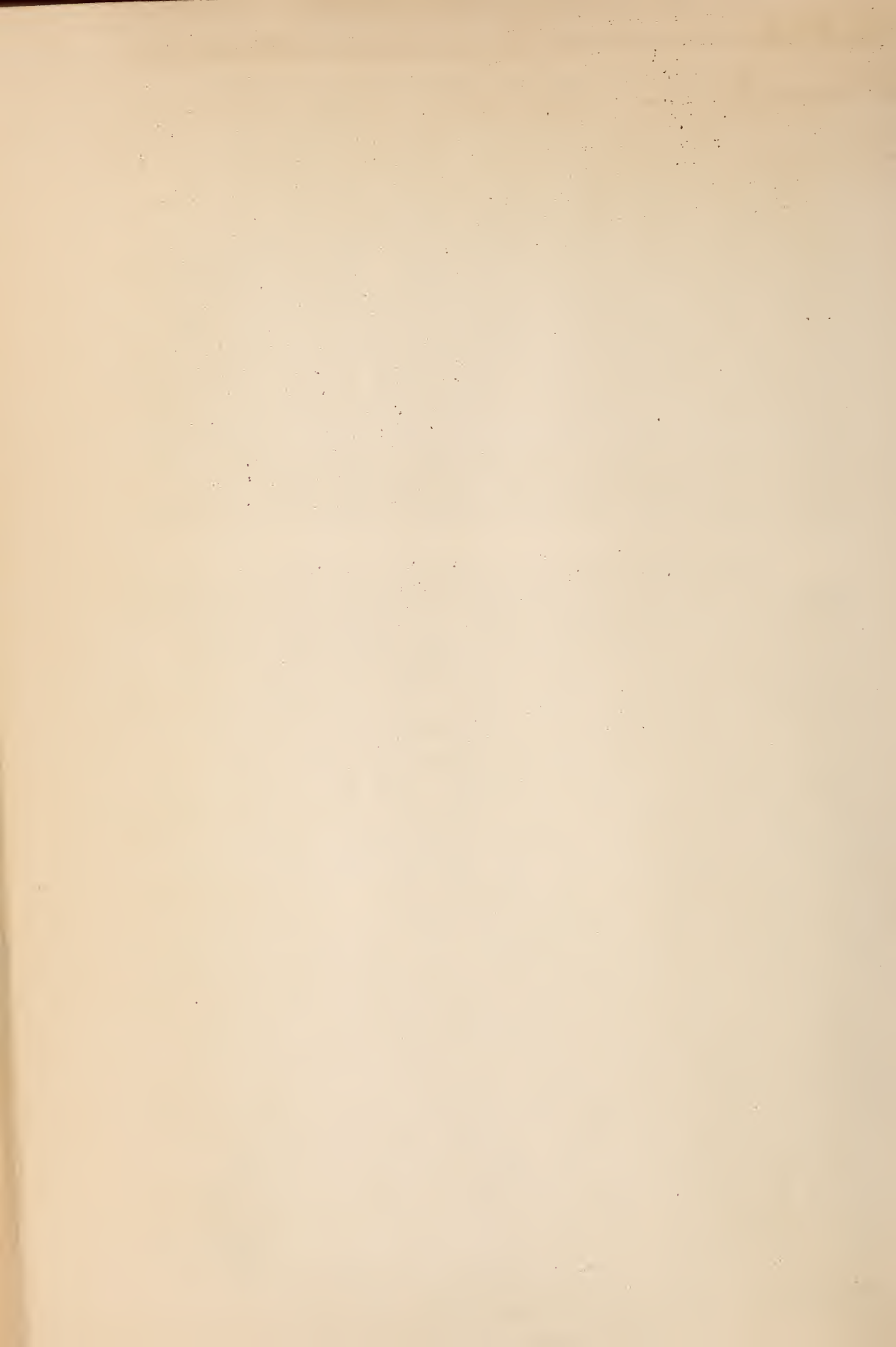


Farm Pop-  
ulation

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for March 14 says: "Farm population of the United States is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at 27,511,000 persons, compared with 27,699,000 a year ago and 32,000,000 in 1909. The figures show that the rural population is steadily decreasing and now is the smallest in 20 years notwithstanding the fact that in that time the population of the whole country has increased more than 30 per cent. In earlier times these figures might well have been looked upon as a danger signal threatening the food supply. Even now alarmists are apt to cite them as evidence of a decadent agriculture, pointing a finger toward a scarcity of food and fibre crops in the near future. Such a conclusion, however, should not be drawn from the facts...In the 20 years that farm population has decreased almost 15 per cent there has actually been a large increase in agricultural production...In addition we have greatly increased our production, as well as consumption, of milk, butter, poultry products, vegetables and fruits. With a less number of men engaged on the farms we are now producing more of foods, feeds and fibers. The release of unnecessary labor upon the land and turning it into industry adds to our industrial capacity. There is no pessimism in these figures."

Flood  
Control  
Work and  
Agriculture

Manufacturers Record for March 14 says: "Business men of Memphis are alert to the possibility of improving the agricultural situation in the Mississippi Valley. In commenting upon this subject recently to a representative of the Manufacturers Record, R. F. Carr of the R. F. Carr Lumber Company and the R. F. Carr Construction Company of Memphis, said: 'I believe that pushing the Mississippi flood control work will do much to stimulate increased interest in farming operations and particularly to influence the diversification of farm crops and promote the establishment on a larger scale of the dairying industry. What will do more to advance agriculture to a favorable position in this immediate section will be an influx of farmers from other sections who will set an example of thrift and enterprise that should stimulate our own farmers to renewed activity. Too long have our farmers raised cotton and nothing else. Why shouldn't they? is a natural question. And it can be answered quite readily. It is possible to raise a cotton crop by working, say, 40 to 50 days out of a year and, because it is always possible to get cash for it, our farmers for the most part have been perfectly satisfied to take a chance on getting a fair price and have been content to raise little else. Land in this section will grow any crop desired...I believe that chambers of commerce and State, Federal and county agricultural promotion agencies can do much to stimulate an interest in diversified farming, but I believe they will do well first to make sure that there is a ready market for the products they encourage farmers to raise. Of course, I believe that the farmer should first of all endeavor to feed himself and his livestock and cattle and to that extent be self-supporting, and not depend solely on money from cotton and corn for his livelihood. Farming in this section will certainly be marvelously stimulated and additional thousands of acres will be placed in cultivation as the result of an influx of skilled farmers from other sections that is certain to result from the promotion of the Government's \$325,000,000 flood control program....'"





Livestock  
Industry  
in Illi-  
nois

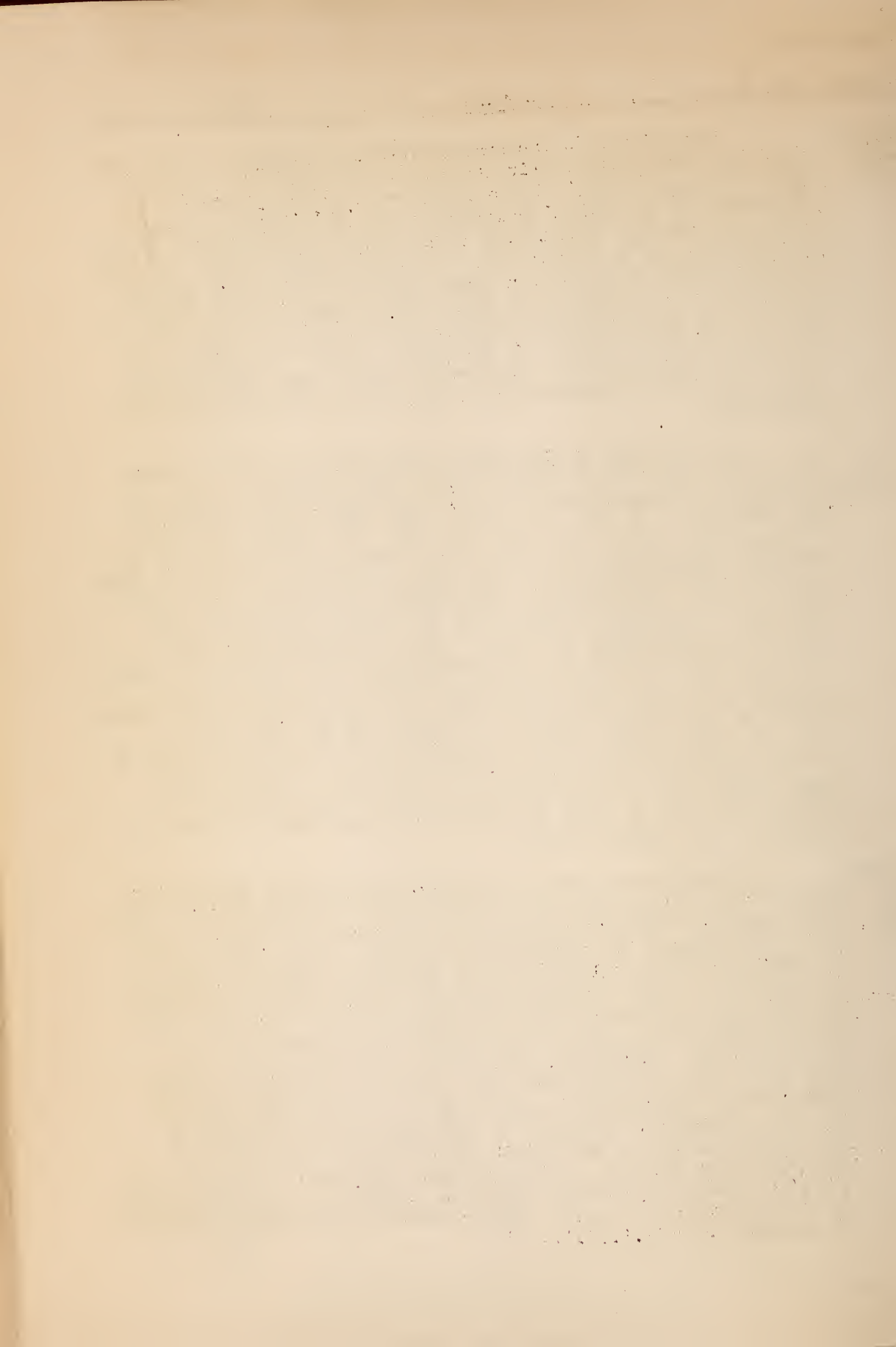
An editorial in The Prairie Farmer for March 9 says: "A more even distribution of livestock over the State of Illinois would be a good thing, in the opinion of Dr. H.C.M. Case of the University of Illinois. He suggests that this might be brought about by growing a little less livestock in the northwestern part of the State and a little more in the east central part. In the former section the amount of money spent for feed often exceeds the value of the crops grown on the farm. When feed is high too much of the farm income has to be used to pay feed bills. In the grain farming section of the State, on the other hand, more livestock would provide a home market for at least part of the grain, and for the legumes which ought to be grown much more extensively."

Maple  
Sugar Co-  
operatives

An editorial in New England Homestead for March 9 says: "It speaks well for the Vermont maple sugar industry to see the cooperation between farmers and the Cary Maple Sugar Company at St. Johnsbury. It will be recalled that last season with only 20 assembling points, more than 40,000 gallons were collected by exchange representatives on which 10¢ a gallon was allowed to help cancel former indebtedness. This spring arrangements have been made for 40 association agents and the volume of business may approach the 100,000 gallon mark. While there has been some delay in getting drums to sugar makers, the Cary Company is doing its level best to cooperate with old members of the exchange. Sickness and other unavoidable delays at the factory are now being offset by more prompt shipment of drums, and Mr. Cary says he will give the matter personal attention with the aim of living up to the spirit of the arrangement with farmers. Vermont maple sugar makers owe it to themselves as well as their industry to hook up with one of these 40 association agents when it comes to shipping their barrel goods."

Wall Street  
and Cor-  
poration  
Farming

A New York dispatch to the Christian Science Monitor for March 9 says: "The attention of Wall Street is being directed with new intensity toward the question of corporation farming. It is not a new subject, but Henry Ford's espousal of the scheme served to bring the matter strongly before important financiers, and it is reported in high financial quarters in New York that proposals are now being considered for the organization of a company which will attempt to put plans for a big farming corporation to a practical test. Meanwhile, what effect, if any, the anti-trust laws would have in connection with corporation farming is being considered. The subject is one in which financial New York is greatly interested. Evidence of this interest is contained in the current number of the Index, official house organ of the New York Trust Company, of 100 Broadway, just out. It places the stamp of the New York Trust Company's approval on the scheme, which it characterizes as 'one of the more practical methods of squeezing prosperity from the soil.'...."





### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Mar. 14--Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$13-\$14.50; cows, good and choice \$9-\$11; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12-\$13.75; vealers, good and choice \$16.50-\$19; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$11.50-\$12.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11-\$11.50; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10-\$11.50; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$8.75-\$10.85. Slaughter lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.50-\$17.60; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13-\$16.40.

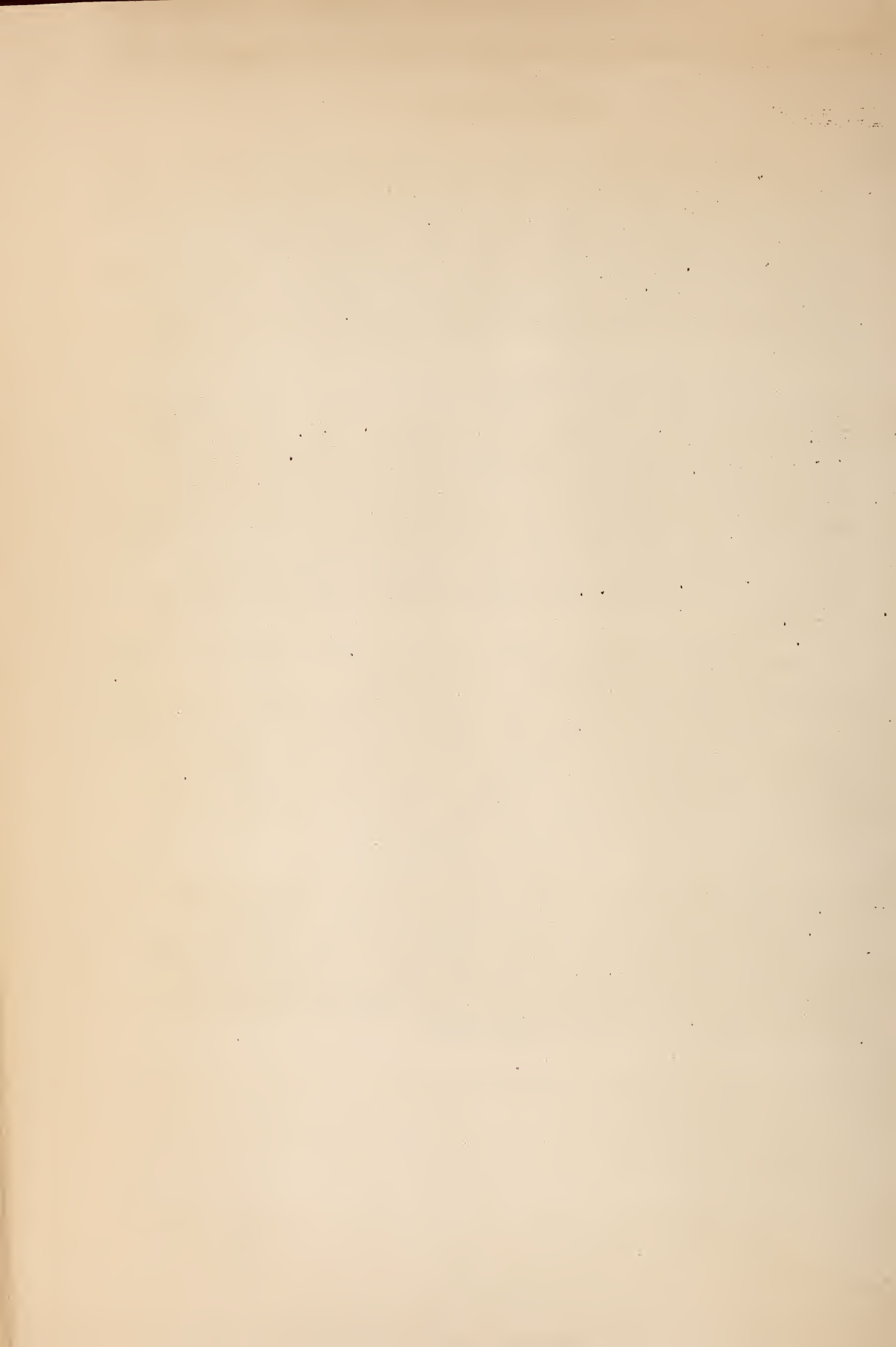
Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 75¢-90¢ on the Chicago carlot markets; 57½¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida Spaulding Rose \$8-\$10.50 per barrel in distributing centers. Best midwestern yellow onions \$4.25-\$5.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1.25-\$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas flat and round types \$2.75-\$3.25 per barrel crate in terminal markets and \$1.40-\$1.60 f.o.b. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.75-\$1.85 per bushel basket in New York City; McIntosh \$2.50-\$2.75. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6-\$6.25 per barrel in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 48½¢; 91 score 48¼¢; 90 score, 48¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets was unchanged at 19.98¢ per lb. On the corresponding day last year the price stood at 18.59¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 21.18¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 20.23¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade declined 3 points to 20.29¢.

Grain prices: No.2 red winter wheat at Kansas City \$1.30-\$1.31. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) at Kansas City \$1.20½-\$1.23½. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) at Chicago \$1.29½. Kansas City \$1.19-\$1.20. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 94½¢; Minneapolis 85¢-87¢; Kansas City 85½¢-86½¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago 95½¢-96¢; Minneapolis 91¢-92¢; Kansas City 89¢-90¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago 48½¢-50¢; Minneapolis 45¢-46¢; Kansas City 49¢-50¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 62

Section 1

March 16, 1929.

## FLOOD SIT- UATION

Floods spread yesterday over large areas in Alabama, Georgia and Florida and 10,000 persons were reported in danger of privation and death, according to The Associated Press.

## SENATORS TO RADIO FARM VIEWS

The Washington Star last night stated that the farm problem is to be discussed in The Star's National Radio Forum tonight by Senator Charles L. McNary of Oregon and Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina. The entire Nation will hear the debate over a hook-up arranged by the Columbia Broadcasting Company. Washington will hear the discussion through WMAL.

## BURLEY TOBACCO POOL

A Lexington, Ky., dispatch to-day reports that the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association is ending its career. The dispatch says: "During the six years of its activity in Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, Missouri, Tennessee, Indiana and other States it sold nearly \$200,000,000 worth of tobacco pooled by its 110,000 farmer members....President Stone says it is the purpose of the directors of the Burley association to so close up the affairs of the association as to preserve the farmwork of the cooperative marketing organization without further expense to the members, yet ready to serve them in case of need for tobacco marketing in the future, should the need arise."

## NEW YORK MILK PRICE

An Albany dispatch to-day says: "Declaring that the price charged for milk in New York City is considerably in excess of that in most of the other large cities, Senator Samuel H. Hofstadter of New York, yesterday offered a resolution providing for the creation of a joint legislative committee 'to investigate the cost of distributing milk in New York City and whether or not a monopoly exists.'...."

## TREASURY SURPLUS FORESEEN

On the basis of the early income-tax returns, which greatly exceeded those at the same time last year, Secretary Mellon confidently hopes the Treasury will close its books on June 30 with a substantial surplus, perhaps as much as \$50,000,000, according to the press to-day.

## NEW YORK ARBOR DAYS

An Albany dispatch March 14 reports that Dr. Frank P. Graves, State Education Commissioner, March 13 designated April 19 and 26 and May 3 as dates for the observance of Arbor Day throughout the State. April 12 was designated as

Bird Day.





## Section 2

Farm Pop-  
ulation

An editorial in The Washington Post for March 15 says: "For 20 years the farm population has been decreasing. Politicians, sociologists and others have decried the cityward shift to no avail. Schemes for making youth contented to remain on the farm have failed to stop the trek townward. To-day, according to the Department of Agriculture, farm population has reached the lowest point since 1909. On January 1 there were 27,511,000 persons dwelling on farms, as compared with 27,699,000 persons on January 1, last year, and 32,000,000 in 1909. The decrease last year would have been much greater had there not been an excess of births over deaths, for the movement from farms amounted to 1,960,000 persons, whereas the movement toward farms amounted to but 1,362,000 persons. Publication of the figures unquestionably will serve to renew the demand that something be done to keep people on the farms and to attract them from the crowded city streets to the open country. But what can be done to further this end? In the final analysis is it important that the cityward movement be halted? From the sociological standpoint it may be advisable to urge youth to stay on the farm. Unquestionably many persons, striving against fearful odds to keep body and soul together in factories or in urban employment, would be far happier, healthier and generally better off if they dwelt in the country. But from the economic standpoint, is it wise or advisable to try to check the cityward drift of population? Dwindling farm population has been accompanied by increased agricultural productivity. The fact that fewer farmers to-day are taking care of an increased national population and are also producing a troublesome surplus is an indication of increased efficiency....It is the less efficient farmer who is leaving the farm. Why should there be greater concern over his failure than there is over that of a storekeeper who is forced to bow before a more efficient competitor?"

Land Recla-  
mation

In an editorial entitled "Why Irrigate?" The Wall Street Journal for March 15 says: "Congress, soon to meet in special session, must take up the question of farm relief. It is futile to discuss whether or not there is a necessity for farm relief by legislation because the Nation now is committed to that course. Congress, therefore, must now attempt to find means of distributing the farm surplus and thus raising the farm income. While the Solons at Washington are doing this it would not be irrelevant to ask why the Government should continue to spend millions of dollars on irrigation projects designed to increase the agricultural output and thus still further increase the very ill for which they are attempting to find a remedy. By 1928 our Government, over a period of 26 years, had spent \$225,000,000 in this manner. Even at this time the proposition is an unprofitable one, to us as well as to the farmer, yet Congress goes on year after year appropriating money for these unnecessary and really harmful projects. For the present fiscal year the appropriation for the Bureau of Reclamation was \$15,600,000, designed, of course, to add more potential acres to the farming area thus increasing the output and causing a larger surplus from which farmers now call upon the Government to devise means of relief. How can it be possible that there should be a need for more farming land entailing expenditure





of millions of dollars, and at the same time there be such a surplus of farm products as to require for its disposal both legislative action and Government expenditure? The two seem highly incompatible, yet that is the situation..."

Oregon's  
Opportuni-  
ties

Governor I. L. Patterson writes on "Oregon Accepts Its Opportunities" in The Review of Reviews for March. He says in part: "The world is entering an era when electrical power will be applied to every branch of industry, commerce, and transportation. Oregon has one-sixth of the potential hydroelectric power of the United States, most of it undeveloped, which means immeasurable industrial possibilities for the future. We are just beginning to take the place that is rightfully ours by reason of accessible raw material and abundant waterpower. Eighty products nationally distributed are now being manufactured within the State. Oregon has four hundred billion feet of standing timber, one-fifth of the standing timber of the whole country and more than any other State. We have a diversity of agricultural products which safeguards us against the ills of communities which are confined to limited crops. To supplement Oregon wheat, we have Oregon wool, Oregon salmon, Oregon apples, Oregon purebred livestock, and other Oregon products with an established reputation. We are developing a flax industry which will be of great importance to both farmer and manufacturer..."

Prune  
Business

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for March 8 says:" .... Just what has happened to the prune business? A recent bulletin from the University of California, which examines the problem in the manner of a doctor measuring a dying patient for a post-mortem, presents some figures which probably tell the story. Back in 1914, there were only 82,000 acres of bearing prunes in California. The price, measured in terms of 1926 dollars, was 11 cents. There was a steadily increasing acreage up to 1918, when, under the stimulation of the war business, the price went up to 15 cents, in spite of an acreage of 103,000. After this there was a slump, but skillful merchandising methods brought the price back up to 12 cents in 1921. The acreage then was 106,000. By 1927, however, the acreage had gone up to 165,000, and the price down to 7 cents. The fact that the price stayed that high is probably a tribute to the business ability of the men who were handling the prune situation. By 1931, there will be a bearing acreage of 182,000, more than twice as much as in 1914, and the unfortunate fact seems to be that the country is not eating twice as many prunes as it was fifteen years ago. A number of remedies are being suggested. Attempts are going to be made to cut production costs, to throw out low grade prunes, to place on the market only the best sizes and varieties, and to increase consumption by all the methods that modern salesmanship suggests; but it is occasionally pointed out that these methods are all subordinate to the main remedy, which is acreage reduction....Of course, it is always possible that some genius in the cooperative field may be able to work out a method of controlling production that will work. The catch here is that while a strong organization might be able to limit the acreage of its members, there



would be no way of keeping outsiders from going into the same business. These are all things that have to be considered in working out any national plan for a gain in farm income. The fact that these strong cooperatives, working by themselves, were not able to obtain a lasting advantage, indicates pretty clearly that Federal action of some sort is going to be necessary to get the desired results..."

#### Reforestation

An editorial in The New York Times March 15 says:

in New  
York

"Unanimous passage by the State Senate of two bills to promote reforestation will be hailed by advocates of conservation throughout the Nation. They are a further indication that New York fully realizes the importance of devoting serious attention to reforestation. Also the bills themselves may serve as precedents in other States. One provides for purchase by the State of parcels of 500 acres or more of idle land not suitable for agricultural purposes. This land is to be reforested by the State so as to increase the area of the State forests. The other bill provides for a contribution by the State not exceeding \$5,000 in any one year per county to match dollar-for-dollar the funds expended for county reforestation work. A sum is set aside by the first bill to add to the maintenance of the State's nurseries, which are already producing millions of trees a year. Since the work was begun in New York upward of 115,000,000 trees have been planted. Many have been set out by private individuals, but have come from the State nurseries. Under the new program the State hopes to plant about 5,000,000 trees a year. It is estimated that the counties will put out another 2,000,000 to 3,000,000. Private plantings may run up as high as 10,000,000. On a basis averaging 1,000 trees to the acre, this means that the State alone will plant 5,000 acres, and that altogether about 18,000 acres a year may be reforested. The cost of planting per acre is in the neighborhood of \$10. While this means that only 180,000 acres would be reforested in a ten-year period, there is reason to hope that both acreage and planting will increase largely, due not only to additional appropriations for buying land and to the bigger output of the nurseries but also to the spread of reforestation practices to municipalities and private citizens..."

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#### Section 3

Department  
of Agri-  
culture

An editorial in The Washington Post to-day says: "Figures that are astonishing in their magnitude and import were quoted to Congress in a recent address on soil erosion by Representative Buchanan, of Texas. More than 1,500,000,000 tons of soil from American farms and pastures is carried to the sea each year, causing the loss of 21 times as much plant food as is taken from the soil by crops. It is estimated that farmers suffer a direct loss of \$200,000,000 per year from soil erosion, and that the ultimate loss amounts to more than \$2,000,000,000 annually. The Bureau of Soils and Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, experiment stations and agricultural colleges have been studying this problem for a number of years. These studies indicate that uncontrolled surface water has washed the most productive and larger part of the soil off of 284,050,000 acres of pasture and





agricultural land. Since this is more than one-third of the cultivated and pasture land in the country, the seriousness of the condition can be readily seen....Congress appropriated \$160,000 for study of this problem and experiment stations are now being established. Unlike the agricultural marketing problem, the washing away of soil will probably not create a sudden crisis. But erosion will continue to waste away soil worth millions of dollars until some definite action is taken."

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Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

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Farm  
Products

March 15--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$13 to \$14.50; cows, good and choice \$9 to \$11; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12 to \$13.75; vealers, good and choice \$16 to \$18; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice \$11.75 to \$12.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.40 to \$11.85; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.40 to \$12; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice, \$9 to \$11.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.50 to \$17.60; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13 to \$16.50.

March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 6 points to 21.24¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 7 points to 20.30¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 6 points to 20.35¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 9 points to 20.07¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 18.88¢.

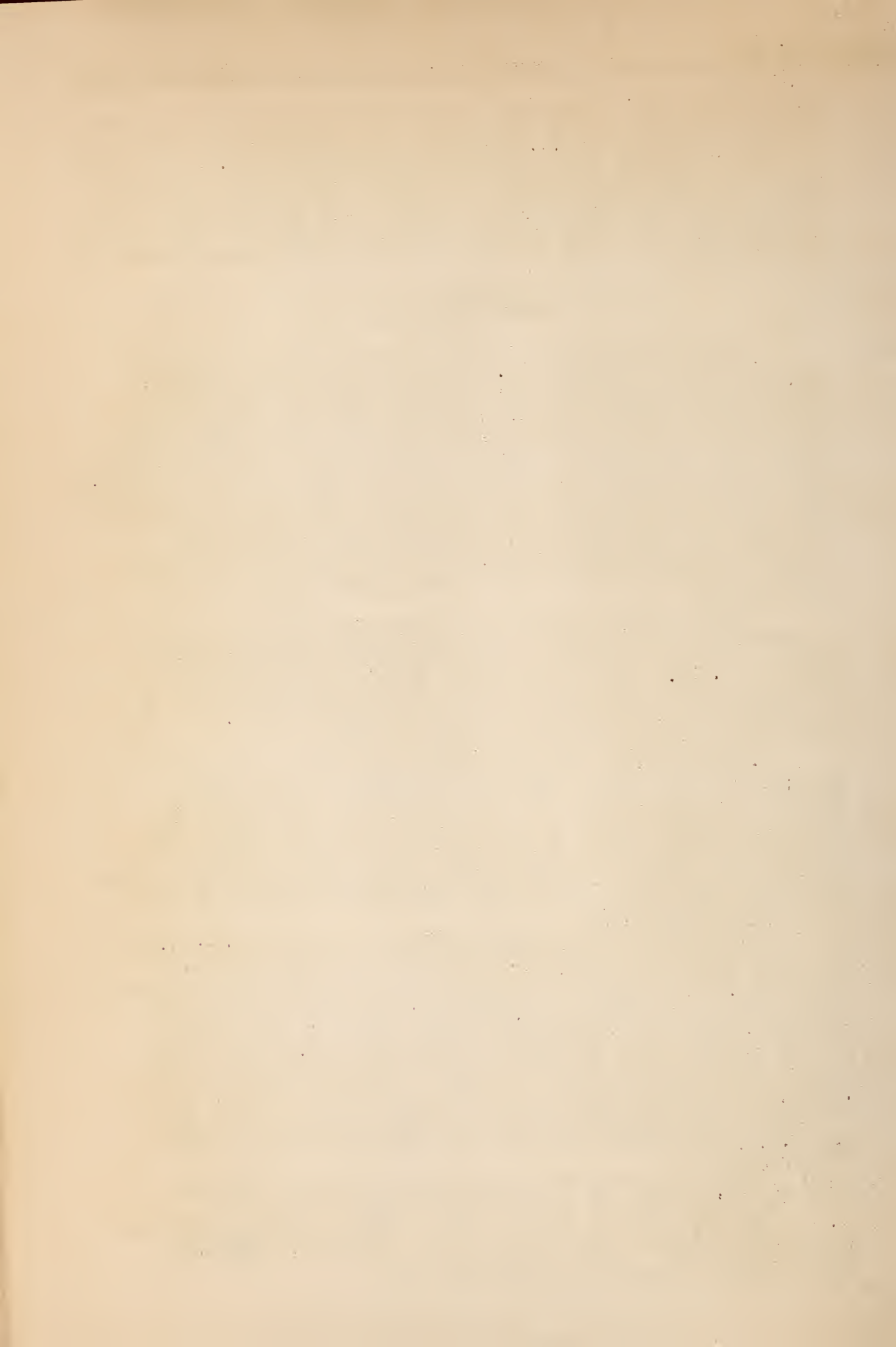
Grain prices: No.2 red winter wheat Kansas City \$1.30 to \$1.32; No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.21½ to \$1.24½; No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.28; Kansas City \$1.19 to \$1.20; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 94½ to 94¾¢; Minneapolis 85½ to 87½¢; Kansas City 85 to 86½¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 95½ to 96¢; Minneapolis 91½ to 92½¢; Kansas City 89 to 90¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 48 to 50¢; Minneapolis 44 7/8 to 45 7/8¢; Kansas City 49½ to 50½¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes closed at \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 75¢-85¢ on the Chicago carlot market; mostly 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes brought \$1.40-\$1.75 per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.75-\$2 in midwestern cities. Best midwestern yellow onions sold at a range of \$4-\$5.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Florida pointed type cabbage sold at \$1.25-\$1.50 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas Flat and round types \$40-\$50 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$15-\$22.50 f.o.b.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 48½¢; 91 score, 48¼¢; 90 score, 47¾¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢ to 25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 63

Section 1

March 18, 1929

## FARM AID HEARINGS

The new farm relief bill will be taken up March 25 in open hearings of the Senate agriculture committee, Chairman McNary announced March 16. Farm organization leaders and interested parties from all sections will be invited to appear before the committee, Senator McNary said. The hearings will last about two weeks, adjourning in time for the committee to report a bill to be considered as soon as Congress meets April 15. (Press, Mar. 17)

## UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE REPORT

The press to-day says: "There was much interest on Saturday at Washington in an announcement that a compilation of the findings of the Committee on Recent Economic Changes of the President's Unemployment Conference was nearing completion and would be made public in May. President Hoover is chairman of the committee, and it is expected that the report will reflect many of his views as to rules to guide industry, finance and trade in an effort to maintain the stability of the Nation's economic structure. The President's Unemployment Conference was held during the Harding Administration and Mr. Hoover, then Secretary of Commerce, presided over its deliberations. Provision was made for continuous research work and the committee, which is soon to report, has been engaged in its investigations since January 1928...."

## THE FLOOD SITUATION

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Montgomery, Ala., says: "Declaring that the suffering of 15,000 Alabama flood refugees is acute, Governor Bibb Graves last night issued a statement appealing for a minimum relief fund of \$250,000. He said all funds would be turned over to the Red Cross. South Alabama's flood waters slowly receded yesterday, and the task of the rescue forces became one of emergency relief for some 15,000 homeless persons in a zone embracing seven counties. The death list stood at twelve...."

## FARM LANDS MEETING

The farm lands division of the National Association of Real Estate Boards has accepted the invitation of the Des Moines, Iowa, Real Estate Board, to hold the special convention of the division in Des Moines. While no definite date has been named for the convention, tentative plans indicate that it will be held early in the fall. The report says: "The farm lands division is holding this special meeting of the full division membership in addition to its regular division meetings at the association's annual convention in order that the farm lands brokers may meet in a farm territory accessible to farm lands realtors...."



## Section 2

Alabama  
Farm  
Bureau

An editorial in Southern Cultivator for March 15 says: "President Hoover, we are told, proposes to give assistance to the farmers through the medium of the farmers' cooperative associations. We believe this is a most economical and practical method of rendering Government assistance. The farmer needs, first of all, the proper means to help himself. Then he can build upon a sound foundation that will insure permanent prosperity. A recent statement from President E. N. O'Neal, of the Alabama Farm Bureau, stated that this organization had done the tremendous amount of seventy million dollars worth of business during the past seven years. This has resulted in a great saving to the farmers of Alabama, and also taught them many valuable lessons in business methods. The leaders of the farm bureau, also, have been able to profit from mistakes made as well as from the profitable transactions put over. All development is a process of slow growth, the elimination of the bad and the selection of those features that have proven good. Every day we hear men say, 'The farmers could do so and so if they would organize, but they won't organize'. However, the truth is that small local farm associations and State-wide associations are growing, and each year the volume of cooperative business is increasing by leaps and bounds. We are proud of the record made by the Alabama Farm Bureau."

Canadian  
Women's  
Pool

The Saskatchewan Egg and Poultry Producers, Ltd., with a total membership of more than 19,000 and doing a gross annual turnover of approximately \$600,000, was organized by a number of farmers' wives less than three years ago. The first president was Mrs. John Holmes of Asquith, Sask., and she still holds the office by popular choice. Only two of the six members of the board of directors are men. They are elected probably to prove that there is no sex superiority complex held by the overwhelmingly large number of women in the membership of the pool. The cooperative was organized because the farmers' wives regarded the system of individual selling as inefficient, and under it the full measure of profits was not going to the producer. A charge of \$2 is made to those joining the pool, one dollar of which is an organization fee, while the other dollar is for one share of stock in the pool. Members contract to deliver all their marketable eggs and poultry as directed by the pool. Initial payments are made to producers on delivery, and the balance as soon as the products are sold and the overhead charges are determined. All profits go to the members. Last year according to the announcement by the Canadian Government, the pool marketed 18,000,000 eggs and more than a half a million pounds of dressed poultry, most of which went to Eastern Canada and to the United States.

Egyptian  
Cotton

Pierre Crabites, a representative of the United States on the Mixed Tribunals at Cairo, is the author of "The Sudan Challenges the South" in The Atlantic Monthly for March. He says in part: "The Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, or Black Country, is a distinct menace to the American cotton market. It is an immense area. It is practically as long as the distance from the Canadian border to New Orleans.





. It begins at the twenty-second parallel (North) and runs to the fifth parallel (North). Without irrigation no crops can be grown in paying quantities north of the thirteenth degree. But England has ordained that hundreds of thousands of acres of this rainless zone shall be converted into a cotton paradise. The carrying out of this program calls for intimate cooperation between practical politics, engineering skill, and business acumen. Great Britain has statesmen, engineers, and men of affairs. The work that this ideal combination has now well under way is such a challenge to the South that it is of compelling interest to the readers of this magazine...And there is a reason why British statesmanship thus favors the Sudan. It is because Manchester calls for Empire-grown cotton. The Sudan can answer this demand. Egypt can not. In these last nine words lie the kernel of the entire problem...The original franchise granted to the Sudan Plantations Syndicate will expire in 1939. In 1926 the concession was extended from 1939 to 1950. The latest available official report on the finances, administration and condition of the Sudan states that the following principal changes are involved in the new grant:--1. The area of the concession is substantially increased. 2. On completion of the full additional area, the Government's share will be changed from 35 per cent of the proceeds to 40 per cent, and the Syndicate's reduced from 25 per cent to 20 per cent. The report adds that it is expected that the 'full area' will be in cultivation in 1930. But nothing is specifically said as to what is meant by 'full area' or to what extent 'the area has been substantially increased' by the 1926 agreement. All of this tends to show that there is a working alliance between British diplomacy, the Sudan Government, and Cisjordanian brains of German origin and English nationality. Its objective is to get plenty of cotton out of the Nile Valley. It is doubtful whether a parallel can be found anywhere else in the world for this happy partnership between statesmanship, administrative efficiency, and high-grade promoting skill. It does credit to England. It strikes at the American Cotton Belt..."

Fibre Milk Containers      An editorial in The Dairy Record for March 13 says: "If the fibre 'bottles' being used with apparent success by the Sheffield Farms Dairies of New York City should prove ultimately satisfactory, they represent an innovation which is certain to prove far-reaching in its effects. That fibre containers will eventually displace the bulky, expensive bottle, we firmly believe...There is no question but that the substitution of glass with fibre would effect enormous savings. In the first place, there is the package, itself. It means a much lower original cost, and a probable eventual saving because of the heavy breakage which occurs in every milk plant. Delivery costs should be greatly reduced, not only because of the lighter package but because of the fact that there are no empty bottles to collect and add to the load. In the plant, there would be the saving in cleaning--an important item in view of the large investment in cleaning apparatus, wages and cleaning materials. There is, then, an important evolution in sight, if the new containers are satisfactory. A huge investment in glass factories will be lost unless those factories can develop products for other markets...And there would be other savings--all down





the line, savings of machinery and man power. It may not be very pleasant news to many thousands, but it seems inevitable. If the New York trials prove successful, the rest of the industry will not be long in adopting the new container. The economies which can be effected are too important to cause much hesitation."

#### Jewish Farmers

Jewish farmers in the United States are cultivating 1,000,000 acres and the real estate and personal property value of their holdings totals more than \$175,000,000, according to the twenty-ninth annual report of the Jewish Agricultural Society prepared by Gabriel Davidson, General Manager. Mr. Davidson cites the figures of Dr. H. S. Linfield concerning the Jewish farm population in this country that "109,600 Jews live in rural territory." The report shows that since 1900 the society's farm loan department has granted 9,387 loans aggregating \$6,004,611 loans having been made to farmers in forty States. Last year, the report says, loans were made to 454 individuals in sixteen States and 1,954 persons were directly benefited. The society's financial service is based on business principles, though loans are made on marginal securities and their payment is spread over a long period of years. (Press, Mar. 10)

#### Soviets to Use Fertil- izer

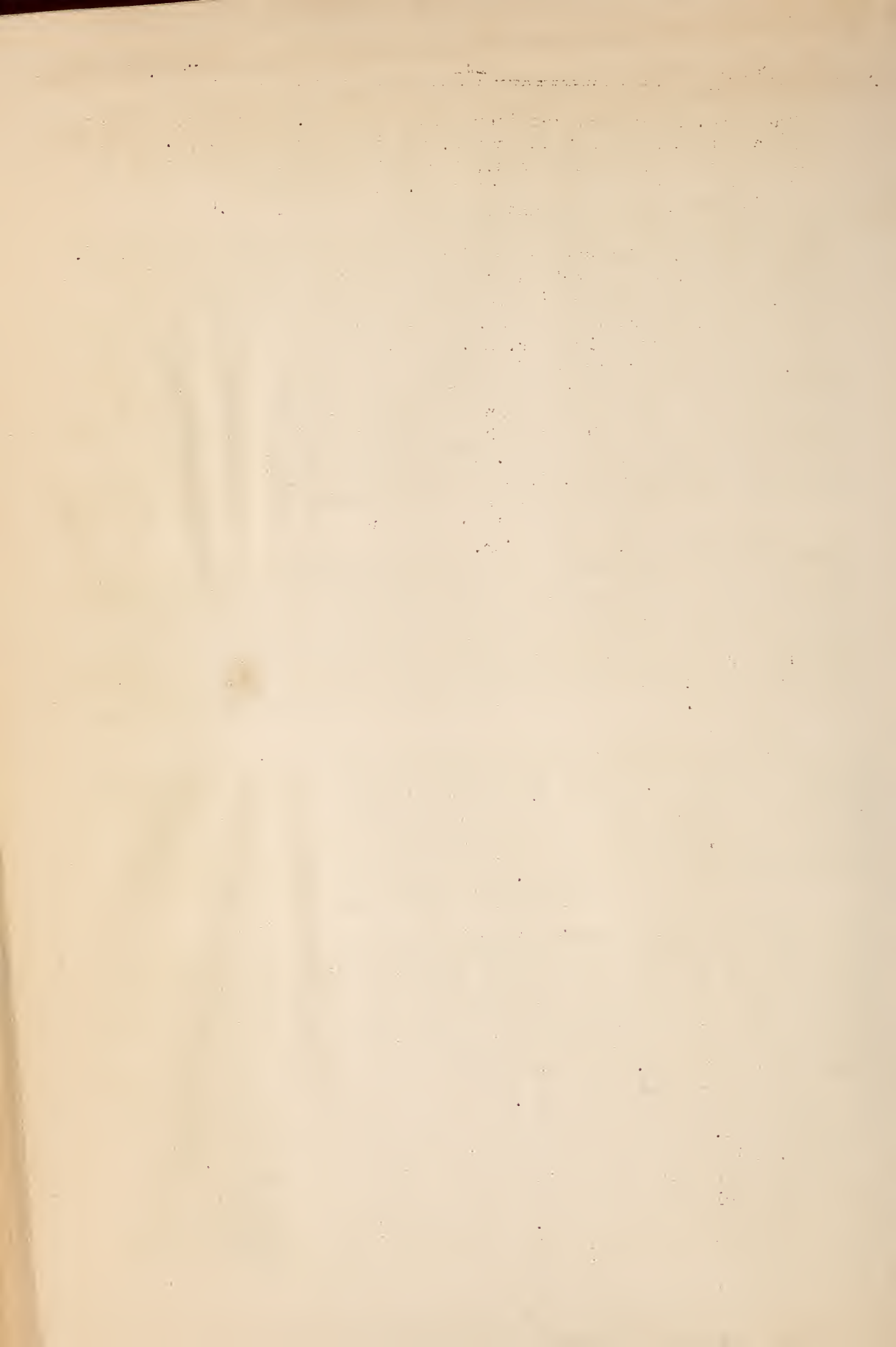
The press to-day reports that the Nitrogen Engineering Corporation of New York has made a ten-year contract with the Soviet Government to assist in the construction and operation of a \$10,000,000 factory to produce synthetic ammonia fertilizer, Saul G. Bron, chairman of the board of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, New York, announced yesterday. To increase the productivity of the soil in Russia, Mr. Bron said, the Soviet Government has decided to construct several fertilizer factories.

#### Stimson on Phil- ippine Sugar Tax

Henry L. Stimson, who will relinquish the Governor Generalship of the Philippines to become Secretary of State in President Hoover's Cabinet, arrived at Honolulu March 14 from Manila. Colonel Stimson expressed the belief that the American people would not "sanction a tax upon the Philippines' most important product--sugar." This, in his opinion, would be contrary to the modern free trade method of handling dominions and dependencies. (A. P., Mar. 15)

#### Wool Market

A Boston dispatch March 15 says: "The wool market in Boston is reflecting the firmness which has developed on the London and Australian markets during the last few days, and it is not improbable that a slight advance in prices will develop here before the new wool arrives from the West. An outstanding fact is that while some 120,000,000 pounds of wool had been contracted for by this time last year the amount represented in this year's transaction is only 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 pounds. What the result will be is hard to foresee. The growers may win in this contest for the control of the sale of the new clips. They anticipate that the eastern mills and dealers will be so short of wool later in the season that they will engage in competition for it. On the other hand, the season is late on the western ranges and the growers need cash to finance their operations and this may induce them to offer their wool at attractive prices. The banks are reported to be considering early liquidation of the new clips...."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 16--Livestock quotations at Chicago on Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.50-12.10; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.50-12; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25-11.50.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $47\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ ; 91 score,  $47\frac{1}{4}\text{¢}$ ; 90 score,  $47\text{¢}$ . Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $23\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$  -  $24\text{¢}$ ; Single Daisies  $24\text{¢}$ ; Young Americas,  $25\text{¢}$ - $25\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.15-1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities;  $70\text{¢}$ - $75\text{¢}$  f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites  $75\text{¢}$ - $85\text{¢}$  carlot sales in Chicago;  $57\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ - $60\text{¢}$  f.o.b. Waupaca. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$4.50-5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Few sales Yellow Bermudas \$3.50 per crate f.o.b. Raymondville, Texas. Florida pointed type cabbage brought \$1.15-1.50 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushel hamper in city markets. Texas stock \$40-\$50 bulk per ton in midwestern cities and \$14-17.50 f.o.b. New York and Michigan Baldwin apples \$6-\$6.25 per barrel in Chicago. Large Virginia Yorks \$5-\$5.50 in New York.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 17 points to 19.90¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 19.06¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 21.06¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 16 points to 20.14¢.

No grain prices quoted. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXII, No. 64

Section 1

March 19, 1929.

## THE CABINET ON THE RADIO

The great issues facing the American people and the United States Government in its constructive processes are to be laid before the people of the Nation by President Hoover's Cabinet in the National Radio Forum, arranged by The Washington Star and sponsored by the Columbia Broadcasting Co., over a network stretching from coast to coast and from the Canadian border to the Rio Grande, says The Washington Star of March 16. The President's confidants and advisers will speak with a voice of authority on these subjects giving first-hand information for the first time on the vital questions that may pertain to their particular branches of the Government. In presenting its calendar of the Cabinet speakers' dates, the Star says: "Secretary Arthur M. Hyde of the Department of Agriculture, former Governor of Missouri, makes a psychological appearance on the radio along with Secretary Wilbur on Saturday, April 20, just at the time that the House, in extraordinary session, is considering the agricultural relief measure. Mr. Hyde will tell the country about the farm situation and needs from an administration viewpoint, and how the legislative body can help through relief of agriculture to improve the entire economic condition of the country...."

## ARTIFICIAL COTTON BUYERS

A London dispatch to The New York Times to-day says: "American buyers, who were at first skeptical, have now entered the market for artificial cotton manufactured from the new fiber root, a discovery of Dr. C. J. Hedley-Thornton, which grows prolifically in England. Doctor Hedley-Thornton's corporation, it is stated, has received orders for 1,000,000,000 pounds, and it is completing arrangements to float subsidiary companies to grow and market the artificial cotton in Holland, Switzerland, Italy, Czechoslovakia and Rumania. Lancashire cotton firms, according to The Evening Standard, are also convinced of its possibilities, while British farmers are negotiating with the corporation with a view to supplying its needs."

Announcement of the discovery of the base of the cotton substitute, a substance manufactured by the chemical treatment of fibre of a British Guiana plant used by humming birds to build their nests, was made by Doctor Hedley-Thornton in Paris on December 10 last. (Described in Daily Digest, Dec.15.)

## FLOOD SIT- UATION

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch to-day reports: "The Alabama River, rising and spreading out until it is ten miles wide in places, has inundated an area in western Alabama estimated to be several times as large as that flooded last week by the Pea River and its tributaries in the southwestern part of the State. First news of the new dangerous situation in four Alabama counties was brought to Montgomery yesterday by aviators, while plans for rehabilitation of the flood-stricken towns and communities in the Pea River section were being put into execution...."



## Section 2

British  
Cereals

An editorial in Country Life (London) for March 2 says: "The Ministry of Agriculture has recently published another of the orange books belonging to their Economic Series: 'A Report dealing with the Marketing of Wheat, Barley and Oats in England and Wales.'... One of the most important subjects to which attention is drawn is the tendency for the manufacture of cereal products, of which there are many, to become concentrated into large units. To set against this there is no corresponding reduction in the number of farmers selling to merchants, or of merchants selling to the manufacturers. This, in itself, is a state of affairs which demands reorganization, especially if considered together with schemes for the regularization of marketing with a view to stabilizing prices and thus overcoming the seasonal depression which is characteristic of prices in the early months of each cereal year...It is common knowledge...that the decline in the arable area of this country has seriously affected the production of cereals. Little more than 20 per cent of the wheat, between 50 and 60 per cent of the barley and about 85 per cent of the oats consumed in this country are produced in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Empire is, however, gradually becoming a dominant factor in the world's markets, and, in spite of the large market in the United Kingdom, the Empire, as a unit, has to seek an outlet for its surplus in other consuming countries. How far Empire supplies affect home-grown supplies is indicated in the report. It is interesting to learn that the Empire wheats are complementary rather than competitive, for the greater the quantity of high-grade Canadian wheat that is on offer in this country the greater is the demand at the same time for home-grown wheat. The future of wheat-growing in this country will undoubtedly be favorably influenced by the introduction of varieties which conform more closely to the imported types in respect of their 'strength,' or capacity for absorbing and retaining water when made up into bread. Apart from the suggestions put forward for standardizing supplies, a good case is made out for the introduction of legislation to control the quality and content of moisture in bread. The special problems of barley are similarly dealt with. With this cereal, fluctuations in price are more marked than with wheat. Imports reach their maximum immediately ahead of the home-grown supplies, but, in spite of this, the maximum prices obtain at the beginning of the season, just after harvest, since brewers and maltsters make the bulk of their purchases then. This shows a marked contrast to the wheat trade, and, therefore, the problems of marketing barley mainly arise over supplies for feeding purposes. The position with regard to oats has been affected by the decline in the horse population. This means a decrease in the consumption of oats from one quarter, but it is offset by the widespread development of poultry farming. Some means of control is recommended in the marketing of supplies..."

National  
Flower

The Associated Press March 18 reports that the wild rose has passed all other flowers in the voting on the most popular wild flower. Of 86,023 votes cast in a nation-wide campaign the wild rose leads with 31,309 votes. The columbine is next with 14,000 votes and the goldenrod third with 10,400.





The American Nature Association, which is conducting the poll for the most popular wild flower, reports that phlox, violet and Daisy are running strong, while dogwood and mountain laurel are holding their own.

#### Paper Milk Bottles

Scientific American for April says: "After a long period of incubation the paper milk bottle emerges from obscurity and bids fair to put both the glass milk bottle and the time-honored milk wagon itself out of business. The combined dairy industry produces food products of prime necessity with a total annual value of five billion dollars--greater than the entire output of the motor car industry--greater than the entire output of the steel industry--greater than the combined annual value of the cotton, wheat, and potato crops. During the last 40 years, progressive milk distributors, aided by the medical fraternity and sanitary authorities, have made vast capital investments to improve methods and have built and equipped the best possible plants to handle milk under the most ideal conditions money, skill, and science could provide. Dairy inspection, milk inspection, pasteurization, grading, certification, glass lined tanks, refrigerator tank cars, all have been adopted at great expense to protect the purity of milk and make its safety equal its importance as a food. Despite all this effort, little progress has been made until now in the actual packing and delivery of milk to the consumer....One of the largest dairy concerns operating in New York has already installed facilities for making 50,000 quart paper containers a day, as the installation of the first unit. The new container has been received with considerable applause by the newspapers and the consumers and wide publicity has been given to the advent of the 'Sealcone' as it is called...The new container brings to the consumer fresh sweet milk in a completely sterile condition. It has been found that this paper cone keeps milk sweet longer than any other kind of container. The Sealcones eliminate all washing of bottles--always an expensive operation. It also does away with freight on bottles from the factory to the bottling plant and the picking up of 'empties' by the milkman....The paper containers can be filled with milk at a temperature of 33 to 35 degrees, Fahrenheit. This is far below the point at which bacteria begin to flourish (40 to 45 degrees, Fahrenheit) so that the milk is sealed in a sterile condition...."

#### Prices

A slight decline in the general level of wholesale prices from January to February is shown by information collected in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The bureau's weighted index number computed on prices in the year 1926 as the base and including 550 commodities or price series, stands at 96.7 for February compared with 97.2 for January, a decrease of one-half of 1 per cent. Compared with February, 1928, with an index number of 96.4, an increase of nearly one-third of 1 per cent is shown. Farm products followed the general downward price trend, increases for grains, hogs, and eggs being more than offset by decreases for beef cattle, poultry, hay, potatoes, tobacco, and wool. The net decrease for the group was one-half of 1 per cent.



Foods also showed a net price decline, due to decreases for fresh and mess beef, lamb, veal, cheese, oranges, lemons, and sugar. Butter, fresh and cured pork, coffee, flour, and lard, on the other hand, were higher than in January. The decrease for the group as a whole was three-fourths of 1 per cent. Hides and skins again showed a radical price decline, while leather also declined appreciably. Boots and shoes and other leather products showed practically no change in price. Of the 550 commodities or price series for which comparable information for January and February was collected, increases were shown in 148 instances and decreases in 110 instances. In 292 instances no change in price was reported. The great importance of articles showing price declines, together with steep decreases for certain items, was responsible for the net decrease in the general price level. Comparing prices in February with those of a year ago, as measured by changes in the index numbers, it is seen that metals and metal products and building materials were considerably higher, while farm products, fuel and lighting materials and chemicals and drugs were somewhat higher. Small decreases between the two periods took place among foods, textile products, and housefurnishing goods, and a considerable decrease among hides and leather products and articles classed as miscellaneous.

#### Weed Campaign

Steps were taken at a conference held by the agricultural service of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States with representatives of the seed trade, the National Grange and the United States Department of Agriculture, on March 5, to undertake a concerted campaign to check the ravages of the noxious weed, according to a statement issued yesterday by the chamber. At this meeting the extent of the losses caused by weeds was outlined and the decision was reached to make additional surveys which will be made the basis for a plan of action. The surveys to be undertaken, according to the statement, are: 1. Estimates of present losses by weeds and of percentages of seed supply sold farm-to-farm and through other channels. 2. Past and present weed-control efforts in States and counties. 3. Survey of Federal and State seed laws and weed-control legislation. 4. Survey of extent of seed-cleaning on farms.

#### Wood Use in New York

A sharp and disconcerting picture of the secondary wood-using industries of New York State is shown in a bulletin entitled, "Wood-Using Industries of New York" just issued by the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University. This bulletin shows that in the 14-year period between 1912 and 1926 the amount of wood used by these industries has dropped more than 50%. Softwood timber accounts for 53% of the total wood used. The Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast States supply a large portion of these softwoods. Douglas fir, cypress, western yellow pine, red gum, southern yellow pine, consumed in New York State exceed by more than 100% the total amount of wood grown locally that is used in our industries. One of the few woods that has increased in use is mahogany, and of course all of that is imported from foreign countries; in fact, mahogany ranks next to hemlock in furnishing material for the industries. But New York, even in





the case of such a common tree as hemlock, only grows 1/5 of the amount needed. White pine which could be found in enormous quantities in almost every section of the State of New York only a few generations past, to-day supplies only 1/15 of the pine lumber used by the industries, the volume consumed in manufacture being only 50% of the records for 1919. The northern white pine and southern yellow pine are the two leading woods, supplying 37% of the total lumber consumption by the secondary industries. New York imports nearly 1/2 of the hard maple that goes into products of these industries in the State, and when it comes to spruce trees, which also were plentiful in New York, the State is able to supply only about 1/8 of the demand.

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Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 18--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75 to \$14.50; cows, good and choice \$9 to \$11; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12 to \$13.75; vealers, good and choice \$15 to \$17.25; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice \$12 to \$13; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.50 to \$12; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.50 to \$12; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25 to \$11.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.50 to \$17.60; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25 to \$16.65.

March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 25 points to 20.80¢ on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 19 points to 19.95¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 26 points to 20.02¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 28 points to 19.62¢ per lb.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes closed at \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 75¢-85¢ on the Chicago carlot market; 57½¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Baldwin apples \$5.50-\$6 per barrel in New York City. New York and Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$5.50-\$6.25 in Chicago. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.65 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern markets. Texas flat and round types sold at \$2 to \$3 per barrel crate in terminal markets. Midwestern sacked yellow onions sold at a range of \$4-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 48¢; 91 score, 47¾¢; 90 score, 47½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢ to 25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 65

Section 1

March 20, 1929.

## FLOOD SITUATION

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch to-day says: "Assured by Weather Bureau officials that all rivers were subsiding in the flood zones, Governor Graves and the Red Cross set about the task of giving relief agencies permanent organization in the flood-swept areas of Alabama. The Governor declined to call a special session of the legislature on the ground that ninety days would be required to pass a bond issue for the 15,000 refugees, but announced he had called the State's Congress delegation for a conference tomorrow with a view to obtaining an appropriation from Congress. The National Red Cross designated west Georgia, southeastern Mississippi and northwest Florida as the southeastern flood relief area and appropriated \$35,000 for immediate use there.

A Cedar Rapids, Iowa, dispatch says: "The flood waters receding, Cedar Rapids yesterday took stock of the loss, which merchants estimated would total hundreds of thousands of dollars. Hundreds of homes still were flooded..."

## PAISH ON FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

A London dispatch to-day to the press says: "Sir George Paish, addressing the National Free Trade Conference at Manchester yesterday, made the gloomy prediction that 'We are threatened with the gravest financial crisis the world has ever seen.'

Sir George is governor of the London School of Economics and was financial adviser to the Chancellor of the Exchequer early in the war and also a member of the British financial commission sent to the United States in 1914. He said in part: 'We are face to face with this crisis. The greatest authorities in this country and in the United States expect it to come this spring....'

"Sir George said that Germany had more unemployment than Great Britain and that the United States,' supposed to be so prosperous,' counted 3,000,000 unemployed. This unemployment was only part of the greater problem of trade depression. Those who had lent money could not recover it. Hence, the world was suffering. British bankers, who were supposed in England to be withholding credit, had never given so much, Sir George asserted, but debtors could not pay because the wheels of trade were not revolving...."

The New York Times to-day says: "American economists were prone to believe last night that the picture of a sudden impending financial crisis attributed to Sir George Paish was considerably overdrawn. There was agreement, however, with the British economist's assertion that international trade restrictions are preventing the payment of international debts..."

## TREASURY SURPLUS

Treasury officials appear confident that if the present ratio of gain in the collection of income taxes continues a comfortable surplus will be reported on June 30, the end of the fiscal year 1929, according to the press to-day. Comparing the first sixteen days of March of this year with the corresponding period of March, 1928, income taxes have increased more than \$13,000,000. The total was \$109,346,854, as against \$95,789,053 for the same period in March, 1928.





## Section 2

## Cow Testing

In Minne-  
sota

An editorial in Farm, Stock & Home for March 15 says: "One-third of the cows in Minnesota are being fed at a loss. In actual figures this means that 500,000 are simply furnishing exercise for their owners and are charging them for it. If it had not been for the work that has been done in cow testing this number would be greater than it is. As the work is now organized, it is only possible to test about 35,000 cows a year. In view of conditions this is a very small number. When the dollars and cents loss on boarder cows is taken into account it seems that adequate provision for more rapid testing should be provided by a liberal appropriation for the employment of more testers, so that at least 250,000 cows a year could be tested and the unprofitable animals weeded out. Economy is not a valid reason for the refusal of such an appropriation. Money spent that will add to the purchasing power of several thousand farmers is not an expense but an investment. If the average loss per cow is only two dollars a year, and it is probably much larger, a million dollars a year is being absolutely wasted. A bill has been introduced in the present legislature to greatly enlarge the work of cow testing and should have the support of every Minnesota farmer, whether or not dairying is the most important part of his operations."

Dairy  
Industry  
In Texas

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for March 16 says: "...It would not be so bad were it not for the fact that, in Texas particularly, we are entirely without organization and regulation. We do not have a dairy commission or any other directing body to help steady the industry or to promote it along safe and sane lines. We need dairy legislation that will protect producers from unfair competition; we need to standardize our products and we need, most of all, practical research work that will provide county agents with a line of information they can rely upon and present to their farmers in the form of demonstrated facts. The several dairy associations in the Southwest are doing splendid work in the development of the industry...The dairy industry has brought substantial prosperity to many sections of the United States. It has contributed to the health of the people; built comfortable homes and raised the standard of living, but it never accomplished this in a single year or in five years. Wherever success has been obtained the development has been gradual. The hurrah method results in failure nine times out of ten. Notwithstanding the fact that the production of dairy products in the United States is keeping up with the demand, there is need for and room in Texas and other Southwestern States for more good cows, creameries, cheese factories, and milk plants. We are not producing our own needs, not even our own demands which are under our actual needs, but there is every reason for us to move forward with caution. If we rush into dairying we are bound to meet with serious reversals."

Fisher  
Stock  
Index

A New Haven dispatch to the press of March 18 reports: "The weekly index number of stock exchange prices compiled by Professor Irving Fisher and based on the week's fifty most active industrial stocks, reckoned on their average of 1926 as 100, is 815.2. This compares with 803.6 the week before, 771.0 two weeks before,



728.7 three weeks before and 737.5 four weeks before. This week's average is the highest for the year to date; the lowest was 693.0, in the first week of January. The average of Dec. 28, 659, was the highest for 1928; the lowest was 253.9 for the week ended Feb. 24. A second compilation, made of an 'investor's index of the 215 most important stocks on the market, shows an average of 168.1 for the past week, 185.6 for a week ago, 183.7 two weeks ago, 178.1 three weeks ago and 181.1 four weeks ago. The average of Feb. 8, 186.5, was the highest for the year to date; the average of three weeks ago was the lowest."

Food and  
Intelli-  
gence

After a study of the "schism between heredity and environment" covering sixteen years, the results of which he announced March 17, Dr. John Munroe of Long Island University, who tested and retested 5,000 school children and followed 700 of them through school and college into business life, is convinced that poor food is directly responsible for much of the low intelligence among the laboring classes. "Intelligence," he declares, "is not constant, nor is it entirely hereditary. Much of the present shortage in intelligence may be alleviated when it is recognized that the physical and chemical surroundings of the germ plasm prior to birth may hopelessly condition that plasm into idiocy after birth; that the expectant mother probably does require food and health care for the developing embryo in order to produce children of high intelligence; that the vicious food conditions, the sanitation and hygiene, the brutality of many homes appear to be the conditioners of morosity and border-line dullness, and that rapidly developing intelligence must be stimulated on all levels incessantly if it is to come to full development." Doctor Munroe's tests were begun in Faribault, Minn., in 1913. Children of the Faribault public schools were the subjects. Dr. Frederick Kuhlman of the Minnesota State Board of Control and members of this staff collaborated in the earlier experiments. Retests were made at intervals of from two to three years. The findings were formulated under the guidance of Dr. Frank W. Freeman of the University of Chicago. Kuhlman-Binet tests were used first. Six to eight years later 169 students selected at random were re-examined and submitted to Otis advance group tests. "As a side experiment," Doctor Munroe said, "I performed food tests upon ten children from families where one would expect an inheritance of fairly high intelligence. For seven months I fed egg-nogs twice a day to these children and found at the end of the experiment that all but one had increased in intelligence. Then I carried my studies of environment still further and investigated all of my original group who had turned out to be criminals. I found that 95 per cent had low grade intellects aggravated by bad surroundings and poor food. Many had been convicted of technical crimes solely because they hadn't the intellect to escape."

Food Prices  
in France

A Paris dispatch to the press of March 18 states that a rise in prices was noticeable in February. The wholesale index number at the end of February was 652, compared with 644 at the end of January, this rise chiefly concerning foodstuffs, whose index rose from 599 to 611. The industrial material index rose from 683 to 687. The retail price index also rose from 599 to 602.





Increased costs of foodstuffs is due to the persistence of extremely cold weather, which has proved a menace to the crop outlook.

New York  
Farm  
Bills

An Albany dispatch to the press of March 17 says: "Governor Roosevelt sent to the legislature March 16 three bills, the last of his farm relief measures, based upon the recommendations of his Advisory Agricultural Commission. The bills submitted call for appropriations totaling \$168,530 for investigation into problems of interest to the farmer, varying from crop adaptation and soil conditions to cooperative marketing and rural government. The work would be done by three State agricultural institutions. The Governor recently put before the legislature other bills providing a total of \$11,000,000 for increased State aid to road building and education for the benefit of rural counties particularly. One bill has been enacted freeing towns and villages from highway maintenance within their limits. This relieves them of a \$600,000 burden, which is shouldered by the State..."

Sun Therapy

"Relation of the Altitude of the Sun to its Antirachitic Effects" is the title of an article by F.R. Tisdal, M.D., and Alan Brown, M.B., in The Journal of the American Medical Association for March 16. A summary of the findings of the two physicians is as follows: "1. A marked increase occurs in the antirachitic effect of sunshine when the sun reaches an altitude of 35 degrees or more. 2. A study of the geographic distribution of rickets shows that rickets is uncommon or exists chiefly in a mild form in those places where the minimum seasonal altitude of the sun is not below about 35 degrees. 3. Conversely, severe rickets is chiefly encountered in those cities where the altitude of the sun is below 35 degrees for some months of the year. 4. The period of the year during which rickets will probably develop can be calculated for any city in the world. The duration of this period may be altered, however, by the prevention of exposure of patients to highly effective sunshine on account of inclement spring weather or other factors."

Tobacco  
Output

Heavy increases in the value of cigarettes and cigars manufactured and slight decreases in other tobaccos and snuff, were shown by census statistics for 1927 and 1925 collected by the Department of Commerce and made public yesterday. Establishments engaged primarily in the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes in 1927 reported products valued at \$965,523,702, an increase of 10.4 per cent, as compared with \$874,814,564 in 1925, the last preceding census year. The production of 1927 was made up as follows: Cigars, \$335,636,159, an increase of 1.1 per cent as compared with \$332,079,225 reported for 1925; cigarettes, \$552,261,070, an increase of 17.7 per cent as compared with \$469,210,316 for 1925; other products, \$77,625,473, an increase of 5.6 per cent as compared with \$73,524,823 for 1925.

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

March 19--Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$7.25-\$9 per barrel in city markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 72½¢-85¢ on the Chicago carlot market; 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$1.90 per bushel hamper. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.80-\$2 in the Middle West. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.65 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas flat and round types \$2.25-\$3 per barrel crate in terminal markets; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$4-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers.

Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75-\$14.25; cows, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.25; heifers (350 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.25-\$14; vealers, good and choice \$14.50-\$18; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$12-\$13. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.25-\$11.60; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.10-\$11.75; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.25; slaughter lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.50-\$17.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25-\$16.65.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47½¢; 91 score, 47¼¢; 90 score, 47¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 3 points to 19.65¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 19.30¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 9 points to 20.89¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 2 points to 19.97¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced 6 points to 20.08¢.

Grain prices: No.2 red winter wheat at Kansas City \$1.28-\$1.30. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) at Kansas City \$1.19½-\$1.22. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis), Chicago \$1.27½; Kansas City \$1.17-\$1.18. No.3 mixed corn, Kansas City 84¢-86¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago 94¢-96¢; Minneapolis 89¢-90¢; Kansas City 87½¢-89¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago 47½¢-48½¢; Minneapolis 43 5/8¢-44 5/8¢; Kansas City 49¢-50¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXII, No. 66

Section 1

March 21, 1929.

## THE FARM BILL

Richard V. Oulahan, writing in The New York Times to-day, says: "...Evidently it is the expectation of the President that the tariff revision bill and the farm aid bill will be drawn along the lines of Republican policies set forth in the platform of principles adopted by the party at Kansas City last June. The essential features of the platform with respect to the farm relief legislation which will be considered at the coming extra session of Congress were as follows: 'The Republican party pledges itself to the enactment of legislation creating a Federal farm board clothed with the necessary powers to promote the establishment of a farm marketing system of farmer owned and controlled stabilization corporation or association to prevent and control surpluses through orderly distribution. We favor, without putting the Government into business, the establishment of a Federal system of organization for cooperative and orderly marketing of farm products.'

"Farm relief legislation again came to the fore in discussions yesterday between the President and Republican leaders in Congress. Among those who discussed the subject with Mr. Hoover were Representative Dickinson of Iowa, leader of the Republican farm bloc, and Representatives Mapes and Ketcham of Michigan...."

## THE FLOOD SITUATION

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch to-day says: "Two loans will be sought from the Federal Government, Governor Graves announced yesterday, for the relief of South Alabama flood refugees. One will be for immediate emergency aid and the other a long-term loan for rehabilitation purposes. The Governor and four members of the State's Congress delegation discussed plans but delayed action until word is received from each of the State's Representatives and Senators. .."

A Quincy, Ill., dispatch to-day says: "Flood-washed levees along the Mississippi River north of Quincy last night bulged from the strain of holding back the relentless rise of the turbid river and sent scores of families scurrying from the Lowlands....Within the Lima Lake district, comprising 20,000 acres of some of the best farm lands in this section, farmers yesterday began removing their livestock, grain and household furnishings, taking them to points of safety along the bluff several miles back from the river. Virtually all this district has been farmed and if the levees break the loss will be tremendous...."

## PAN-AMERICAN HIGHWAY

The press to-day reports: "Readiness of the United States Government to cooperate in a study and survey of the proposed Pan-American highway to link the nations of the Western Hemisphere was communicated to the Ambassadors and Ministers of Latin American countries resident at Washington in letters yesterday from Dr. Leo S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan-American Union and chairman of the executive committee of the Pan-American Confederation for Highway Education...."



## Section 2

Apple  
Distri-  
bution

Nearly one-half of the world crop of apples is produced in the United States, according to a study just completed by the Bureau of Railway Economics, and made public to-day, of apple production and the relationship of farm, wholesale and retail prices to transportation costs. "During the crop years 1924 to 1927," according to a bulletin issued by the Bureau of Railway Economics based on its study, "the annual production of apples in the United States averaged 178,600,000 bushels, of which 94,800,000 bushels, or about 53 per cent, entered commercial channels as fresh fruit. Of this production, the United States exported an average of 12,835,000 bushels of apples annually, of which approximately 54 per cent were transported in barrels and 46 per cent in boxes. In addition, in terms of fresh apples, annual exports of dried apples and canned apples averaged 2,563,000 and 343,000 bushels, respectively. Apples from the United States were distributed to all parts of the world, those for the year ended on July 1, 1928, reaching 72 different countries, The United Kingdom furnished the largest market for fresh and canned apples exported from this country while Germany provided the largest market for dried apples. More than 93,000 cars of apples were shipped by rail from the producing areas to markets in the United States during the year ended July 1, 1928. Distribution within the United States was widespread, apples from the Northwest reaching all of the States, while those from the Eastern and Central States entered practically all States east of the Rocky Mountains. Rail hauls of 2,500 miles and over are common...."

Canada's  
Dairy  
Industry

Dominion leaders continue to reiterate the brightness of outlook for the Canadian dairy industry, says a recent Canadian Pacific Railway bulletin. "Dairymen can look back on the season of 1928 as one of the most successful in the history of the industry," said Dr. J. A. Ruddick, Dairy Commissioner for Canada, recently. He had particular reference to the cheese industry, with which he dealt at some length. There had, he said, been a very marked improvement in the quality of cheese throughout Canada, a greater improvement probably than had been shown in any previous year since the grading system was established in 1923. Second only in importance to the grading system he considered the recent organization among the cheesemakers of Ontario, the Province which produces 70 per cent of the Dominion's cheese, which was bound to result in great good for the industry, he added...."

Cotton  
Situation

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for March 19 says: "Announcement by the Census Bureau of a domestic mill consumption of 598,098 bales of lint cotton and exports of 613,394 in February shows that cotton is gradually working into a stronger statistical position. That movement should continue through the remaining five months of the season so that at the end of the crop year, July 31, the statistical position should be substantially stronger than that of a year ago. The February figures of domestic mill consumption are <sup>un</sup>usually large for that month and show that the daily rate of consumption by mills is still on the uptrend. The total domestic consumption for cotton of all kinds in this first seven months of the season is 4,049,461 bales. This compares with





4,200,369 a year ago....There is nothing at this time to indicate any domestic underconsumption of cotton goods. There is no over-supply of goods in actual existence. Therefore it is a fair inference that mill consumption for this season must approximate that of a year ago. Total of exports for the seven months of this season is 6,188,075 bales, compared with 5,123,396 a year ago. Here is a gain in exports of over a million bales. Consumption and exports together have reduced domestic supply 10,238,536 bales, against 9,322,765 a year ago. This difference of over 915,000 bales indicates a smaller domestic supply at the end of the crop year. But the total world supply of American cotton must be taken into consideration. This can not be figured out to a bale because different authorities make somewhat differing estimates of world carryover. But taking the Garside estimate of world carryover for the past two seasons and the official crop estimates for this season we have a total supply of 19,496,000 bales of American cotton compared with 20,478,000 for the 1927-1928 season. The International Cotton Statistics show the world consumption of American cotton for the six months ended January 31, 1929, was 7,613,000 bales, against 8,226,000 the preceding year. This leaves on February 1, 1929, a world supply of 11,883,000 bales of American cotton, compared with 12,256,000 the preceding year. While the European situation is quiet there appears to be no particular change in the level of consumption of the past two months. Our own consumption is now on the increase and the mills are gradually eating into the surplus of a year ago, which means at the end of this season a considerable reduction in the carryover."

Farm  
Exodus

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for March 20 says: "The Bureau of Agricultural Economics recently stated that during 1928 the trend away from the farms of the country continued with 1,960,000 persons leaving the country as compared with 1,362,000 removing from the cities. Although the net loss after allowing for births is the least recorded during the past eight years, the tale is, nevertheless, a melancholy one, especially in view of the protracted character of the movement. Over a twenty-year period, in fact, the farm population is estimated to have declined about 4,500,000. Where have the farmer migrants gone? The question is not so easily answered as seems apparent at first blush. The usual answer is to quote the great growth of American industry and to cite the pull of the factory as the main cause of the rural exodus. Official statistics, however, refute this natural and easy assumption since the Department of Commerce reports decreasing factory populations in the years since the war. During the five years following 1922, for instance, the average number of employed factory workers declined to the extent of more than 400,000 persons, and the downward trend persists. Manufacturing, therefore, is not affording an outlet for discouraged agricultural workers. Such being the case, they have no place to go except into the army of the idle or into the ranks of those engaged in the distributive trades or ancillary activities. The evidence supports this a priori assumption. Unemployment as a chronic phenomenon is becoming an ever more serious feature of present day economic organization, while the effort spent upon marketing and selling goods



that have been produced on farms and in factories is absorbing ever increasing percentages of the man power of the country. Although the movement away from both farm and factory is a result of independent special causes familiar to all, their coincidence in point of time greatly increases the difficulties of the adjustment problems thereby created."

Food and  
Intelli-  
gence

In an editorial on Doctor Munroe's study on food and intelligence (outlined in Daily Digest for March 20) The Washington Post for March 20 says: "The artist and the inventor who work and starve in their attics have long been foremost among the picturesque characters of fiction as well as of actual life. Marvelous results have often come from the application of mind to unsolved problems under conditions of poverty, but the wisdom of any civilization permitting its men of genius to labor under adverse conditions has often been questioned. Now comes Dr. John Munroe, of Long Island University, with a pronouncement that undernourishment is a serious handicap to intelligence...If Doctor Munroe's findings are correct, improvement of environment may go much further than amelioration of crime conditions....He expresses the encouraging hope that stagnation of intelligence can be alleviated, if not largely eliminated, by environmental manipulation. Results of the investigation are interesting, indeed, but the solution Doctor Munroe offers for increasing the racial intelligence is not as simple as it sounds. It involves abolition of poverty and the application of scientific rules of health, diet and conduct to the entire population. Complete success in this effort would be the achievement of the millennium, and is not to be expected, but it is to the honor and glory of man that he keeps trying."

"Living  
Light"

The press of March 20 reports that in a discussion of luminous animals before the American Institute at Cooper Union, New York, March 19, Dr. E. Newton Harvey, Princeton professor of physiology, expressed the belief that living light may be reproduced in the future. "The question as to whether we shall ever be able to reproduce living light becomes the question whether we shall ever be able to synthesize the proteins," he declared. "Personally, I think that will come in the future. We now synthesize fats, sugar and some of the polypeptids, which are simple proteins. It is only a matter of time for synthesis of the more complicated compounds of which luciferin is a member. ..."

South  
African  
Cattle

"Great Britain sees in South Africa vast possibilities as a cattle-producing country. The claim is made that cattle can be produced in South Africa more cheaply perhaps than in any other part of the world. At present the beef cattle are of poor quality and can not compete with the South American article in the British market." (Oregon Farmer, Mar. 14.)





Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 20--Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.50-\$14.25; cows, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.50; heifers, (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.50-\$14; vealers, good and choice \$13.50-\$17; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$12-\$13. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.15-\$11.60; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.15-\$11.65; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.15; slaughter lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.50-\$17.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25-\$16.65.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.15-\$1.45 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 65¢-80¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-58¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida Spaulding Rose \$7-\$9 per barrel in city markets. Midwestern sacked yellow onions ranged \$4-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1.25-\$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas round type \$2.25-\$2.50 per barrel crate in Chicago and \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.75-\$1.90 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.50-\$1.75. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6-\$6.25 per barrel in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46½¢; 91 score, 46¼¢; 90 score, 46¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 8 points to 19.73¢. On the same day last year the price stood at 19.19¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 9 points to 20.98¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 11 points to 20.08¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 12 points to 20.20¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.2 red winter wheat at Kansas City \$1.27-\$1.29. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) at Chicago \$1.24½; Kansas City \$1.15-\$1.17. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 91¾¢; Minneapolis 82½¢-84½¢; Kansas City 82½¢-83½¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago 93¢-94½¢; Minneapolis, 88½¢-89½¢; Kansas City 85¢-87½¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago 46½¢-48¢; Minneapolis 43 5/8¢-44 5/8¢; Kansas City 48¢-49¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



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Vol. XXXII, No. 67

Section 1

March 22, 1929.

## THE FLOOD SITUATION

The press to-day says: "President Hoover conferred yesterday with James L. Fieser, acting chairman of the American Red Cross; Secretary Good, Senator Heflin and Representatives McDuffy and Joffries of Alabama. Afterward the Red Cross issued a statement outlining the reconstruction work planned for flood sufferers in Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

"The Bureau of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture has been instructed to survey the damage to Federal aid highways in these States with the purpose of giving assistance wherever possible...."

A Quincy, Ill., dispatch to-day reports: "The waters of the Mississippi broke through the battered Indian Graves levee five miles north of Quincy yesterday and loosed a flood over 20,000 acres of rich farm land. The break had been expected for several days and virtually all the farmers had moved their livestock, grain and household goods back to the bluffs and safety. Crews of relief workers were on hand aiding any who failed to evacuate in time, and assisting the levee patrols to reenforce other retaining walls which are weakening before the strain. Most of the flooded farms were planted with crops and the loss is expected to amount to thousands of dollars....The Lime Lake and Hunt districts, north of the Indian Graves levee, are in constant danger of inundation, the levees now holding about all they can. Improvements in the way of new levees and diversion channels in this area are nearing completion at a cost of more than a million dollars."

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch says: "Red Cross officials in Washington estimated yesterday that 26,000 persons had been made homeless by floods in south Alabama and northern Florida...."

## POISONOUS

### BARLEY FUNGUS

A London dispatch to the New York Times to-day says: "The Minister of Agriculture has identified the poisonous fungus affecting certain imports of American barley as gibberella saubinetti, known to be toxic to both men and domestic animals. Farmers and brewers here have been alarmed at the presence of this poison in the American barley."

## GERMAN FARM AID

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "Sweeping tariff protection for farm products and urgent demands for early enactment of legislation to alleviate the prevailing economic and social conditions confronting German agriculture are the features of an elaborate memorial submitted to Chancellor Mueller March 20. The petition sets forth at great length the desperate situation into which the entire industry has lapsed through lack of working capital, absence of rational operating methods and growing dependency on food importations from abroad...Relief measures demanded deal with protective duties on grain, livestock, dairy products and sugar and fixation of price categories for imports and home products. The formation of agricultural chambers, credit grants and improved wages and housing conditions for farm workers also are urged..."





## Section 2

## Cooperation

An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for March 23 says: "Business men have won their prosperity largely as a result of organization, and all thoughtful men interested in agricultural relief know that there is no hope of permanent financial betterment for farmers unless they are willing to organize and work together as business men have learned to do. The farmer who thinks that he can make no effort and no sacrifices to improve general policies of buying, selling, and farm management; the farmer who thinks he can stay out of organizations while others do all the work of trying to bring about a better day; the farmer who thinks he will then selfishly share all the benefits without contributing any of the labors--he is a menace to the whole agricultural industry. There is danger that there may be enough such 'all for self' fellows to prevent the rest of us from getting the benefits to which agriculture is really entitled. But we can at least help build up a public sentiment which will (1) educate the ignorant about such matters and (2) which will make it uncomfortable for the man who is not merely ignorant but too inordinately selfish to tote his end of the log....The men who handle farm products are practically all organizing so as to sell their output in a co-operative instead of a competitive way. The Government now proposes to help farmers do the same thing. But unless we organize and utilize this help, we shall continue to be about the poorest paid of all American labor."

Cotton Util-  
ization

Representative Marvin Jones of Texas writes of "A New Kingdom of Cotton" in National Republic for April. He says in part: "Cotton...bids fair soon to become even more than at present one of the most popular commodities in all the world. Cotton is now one of the idols of some scientific gentlemen. What they are doing with cotton is almost as amazing as successfully converting brass into gold or tin into silver. For cotton is being converted into silk! Recently I had the rare privilege of seeing raw cotton fed into long rows of machines and coming out a finished product that looks, feels and wears like silk. Truly, this is one of the miracles of modern industrial chemistry. It is now being done on an extensive scale at a plant already in operation in the southland....The factory where this wonderful new fabric is being made is located at Elizabethton, Tenn. At what was a few years ago a country village a \$200,000,000 factory has been built. This plant takes cotton 'linters,' breaks down the structure, forms it into a gelatin-like substance, mixes it with chemicals, squeezes it through an instrument having the appearance of a glass funnel, with fine holes, and with a finger-like process lifts the fine strands out of the chemically charged waters. After drying, it is a thread that looks like and has practically the tensile strength of silk. It is woven into a cloth that looks, feels and wears like silk. It requires an expert to distinguish it from the age-old commodity..."

Farm  
Buyers

That the farmer's buying horizon has extended in this day of the radio, the automobile and extensive advertising, and that he no longer considers land in his own immediate neighborhood when he thinks of buying a farm, as he usually did 25 years ago,



but, on the average, buys land 113 miles distant, is the tendency indicated by answers given by farm brokers in response to questionnaires sent to them through the farm lands division of the National Association of Real Estate Boards. Contrary to the general opinion that farms for actual farming are becoming more and more the property of the thrifty Austrian or Bohemian immigrant, the data showed that 81 per cent of the purchases were made by native-born Americans in sales where 72 per cent of the farms were purchased for actual farming purposes and not as investments. Similarly, if these questionnaires are to be taken as indicative of general trends, the day of the young couple who are just married and take upon themselves immediately the burden of a farm to pay for is a thing for the pioneer novel; for the average age of the buyer for the entire group of farms was 46 years. (Press, Mar. 17.)

#### Farm Population

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for March 20 says: "There was a small decrease in the number of persons leaving farms last year as compared with the previous year, according to figures issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture. During the year 1,960,000 moved away from farms, while 1,362,000 went from cities to farms. In 1927 the movement was 1,978,000 from, and 1,374,000 to, farms. Still, as compared with the farm population of 32,000,000 in 1909, that of 1928 numbered 27,511,000. The fact that the Nation's supply of food products can now be furnished by 4,500,000 fewer people than were required two decades ago, taking into consideration the much larger number of mouths now to be fed, is a significant demonstration of what has been done in supplanting manual labor by machinery. This process is steadily expanding, and farmers able to take advantage of it have succeeded in weathering agricultural depression. Many of them are prosperous. The real farm problem consists of that very considerable number who eke out a bare existence. With improved machinery, need of farm labor will not increase with growth of demand for farm commodities, while the present concern in our cities over unemployment holds out little hope that surplus farm population can be easily absorbed by them. This is a phase of the employment problem which accentuates its increasing gravity."

#### Food Prices

The retail food index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows for February 15, 1929, a decrease of about one-tenth of 1 per cent since January 15, 1929; an increase of a little less than 2 per cent since February 15, 1928; and an increase of approximately 59 per cent since February 15, 1913. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 151.6 in February, 1928; 154.6 in January, 1929; and 154.4 in February, 1929. During the month from January 15, 1929, to February 15, 1929, 18 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Oranges, 6 per cent; strictly fresh eggs, 3 per cent; bananas, 2 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, chuck roast, plate beef, sliced bacon, canned red salmon, cheese, lard, macaroni, canned corn, canned peas, sugar and raisins, 1 per cent; and sliced ham, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Nine articles increased: Onions, 8 per cent, navy beans, 5 per cent, cabbage, 3 per cent; pork chops and canned tomatoes, 2 per cent;





and leg of lamb, hens, butter and baked beans, 1 per cent. The following 15 articles showed no change in the month: Fresh milk, evaporated milk, oleomargarine, vegetable lard substitute, bread, flour, corn meal, rolled oats, cornflakes, wheat cereal, rice, potatoes, tea, coffee, and prunes.

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Section 3

Department  
of Agri-  
culture

An editorial in The New York Times for March 21 says: "The Department of Agriculture reports distinct progress in farmers' cooperatives in 1928. The number of associations engaged in marketing and purchasing of which the Cooperative Marketing Division of the department has record is 11,400, and more than 2,000,000 farmers are members of one or more of them. They are 'incomparably better managed business organizations than they were ten years ago.' As the total number of farmers in the United States is somewhat more than six millions, according to the census of 1920, nearly a third of them are in cooperatives. Their total cooperative business was estimated at \$2,300,000,000. This would seem to indicate that those farming on a large scale are more numerously represented in the cooperatives....Extension of efficient cooperatives means a narrowing of the 'spread' between the producer and the consumer, either by increasing the producer's share or reducing the price to the consumer. At present the rough estimate is that where the consumer pays \$1 for farm products the farmer gets 30 cents. But cooperative marketing offers more than this. It affords the best possible means for bringing about a coordination of production and marketing. Moreover, it provides a marketing machinery for recognizing quality and for returning to the producer premiums for excellence. The ideal condition, as the head of the Cooperative Marketing Division in the Department of Agriculture puts it, would be an adequate but not excessive supply of farm products of desirable quality, graded and packed according to known standards, and an orderly economic handling, with elimination of waste and of lost motion between the farmer and the consumer. It is in this direction that the farmers are moving..."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

March 21--Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75-\$14.25; cows, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.50; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.50-\$14.25; vealers, good and choice \$13-\$17; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$12-\$13. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.40-\$11.85; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.50-\$12; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.50-\$11.50; slaughter lambs, good and choice (34 lbs. down) \$16.50-\$17.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25-\$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$6.75-\$9 per barrel in distributing centers. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.45 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 70¢-75¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-58¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1.15-\$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern markets. Texas round type \$2.25-\$2.50 per barrel crate in Chicago and \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$3.75-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. New York Baldwin apples \$5-\$6 per barrel in New York City; large-sized Virginia Yorks \$4.50-\$5.25. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6-\$6.25 in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47¢; 91 score, 46½¢; 90 score, 46½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 6 points to 19.79¢. On the corresponding day last year the price stood at 19.19¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 21.09¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 7 points to 20.15¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade were unchanged at 20.20¢.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (13% protein) at Minneapolis, \$1.27½-\$1.32½. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis), Chicago \$1.26¼; Kansas City \$1.16-\$1.18. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 92¢-93¢; Minneapolis 82½¢-84½¢; Kansas City 82½¢-84½¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago 93¢-93½¢; Minneapolis 88½¢-89½¢; Kansas City 85¢-87½¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago, 47¢-48¢; Minneapolis 43½¢-44½¢; Kansas City 47¢-48¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXII, No. 68

Section 1

March 23, 1929.

## FARM RELIEF BILL

The Associated Press to-day says: "President Hoover is ready to cooperate with the congressional committees in the formulation of a farm relief bill, but he still feels that the presentation of a definite measure by himself would amount to an encroachment upon the prerogatives of Congress. This word emanated from the White House yesterday about the time the representatives of the American Farm Bureau Federation, arriving here for the opening of farm relief hearings, called for a presentation of the administration's farm program. ..."

## THE IMMIGRATION ACT

The press to-day reports that President Hoover yesterday issued a proclamation putting into operation the national origin quotas of the immigration act on July 1. His action followed a decision by Attorney General Mitchell that it was mandatory, since Congress failed to postpone the operation of this provision of the immigration law. In announcing his decision to issue the proclamation, President Hoover said: 'The Attorney General has advised me that in failure of Congress to suspend action, it is now mandatory upon me under the immigration act to issue the proclamation establishing "national origins" as the basis of the immigration quotas. The proclamation must be issued prior to April 1 and will be issued at once. It will go into effect on July 1 unless action is taken by Congress in the meantime. While I am strongly in favor of restricted and selected immigration, I have opposed the national origins basis. I, therefore, naturally dislike the duty of issuing the proclamation and installing the new basis, but the President of the United States must be the first to obey the law.'...."

## THE FLOOD SITUATION

A Quincy, Ill., dispatch to-day says: "A rising Mississippi River again bore down on Quincy yesterday after flooding thousands of acres of fertile farm land, ruining wheat, drowning much livestock and driving scores of families from their homes. The two breaks in the Indian Grave Levees, several miles north of Quincy, on Thursday was followed by a drop in the river stage as flood waters poured over the lowlands. Yesterday, however, the river began rising again and was nearing the 20-foot stage. The majority of the farmers, anticipating the break in the levees, moved their belongings back to safety along the bluff."

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch says: "Danger of another flood disaster in Alabama passed yesterday when an expected heavy rainfall failed to materialize and several floodgates to four power dams on the Tallapoosa River, tributary to the Alabama, were closed to impound a great volume of water..."



## Section 2

Calavo

Production this season has amounted to about 750,000 pounds, which gives some idea of the expansion of this newest California fruit industry in a short time. It is estimated that there are now 5,000 acres planted. Not more than 2,000 acres are in bearing, though every year this figure increases as new orchards begin to bear fruit. The report says: "Calavo is the trade name conferred upon a new fruit, said to be of the avocado family, but in Southern California, where it is raised, the growers are apt to think of it in terms of gold....Though calavos have only been on the market for the last three or four years and are reckoned as California's newest fruit, they really are an achievement based on many years of experiment and study....There are three main varieties of the fruit, the Mexican, the Guatemalan and the West Indian. The first two thrive in California, but the West Indian variety requires a more tropical climate. Although they started out purely as a scientific organization, the members of the Avocado Association did not try to dispose of any of the calavos except on the local market, where there has been some demand, but in 1924 the association was confronted with a large crop which could not possibly be absorbed by the Southern California market. An exchange was then organized, and a crop of 250,000 pounds of fruit was put on the market...."

Foreign  
Trade

A Vienna dispatch to the press to-day reports: "Forty American trade commissioners and commercial attaches in Europe who will conclude tomorrow their six-day annual conference at Vienna, have reached the general conclusion that the immediate future of the United States' trade with the Old World hangs largely on two issues. These issues are whether the reparations question will be finally settled by the Paris conference and whether the Hoover administration will carry out its reported intention to add a few more bricks to the tariff wall. The United States last year exported just under \$5,000,000,000 worth of goods, or about \$200,000,000 more than in 1927, but in the opinion of the United States' trade representatives in Europe that total can be largely increased if the reparations experts are successful...."

Land Recla-  
mation

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) for March 16 says: "J. L. Maxson, a well-known and successful farmer of Custer County, has prepared a most interesting review of the farm problem. He goes directly to fundamentals in his discussion of the situation and strikes a particularly vigorous blow at the Government policy of reclamation. 'Would-be farmers,' Mr. Maxson says, 'are induced to locate on some of this so-called reclaimed area and produce crops that go to a market that is already depressed. This in turn makes the battle harder for the farmer who is already in the business and helps to break the owners of hundreds of thousands of acres of good land that do not need reclamation. Why does this continue to go on, in face of the conspicuous lack of success that has characterized such undertakings? It is contrary to the wishes of the farmers themselves. And it is in direct contradiction to the attitude of the Department





of Agriculture which is trying to maintain agriculture on an economically sound basis.' It is absurd to increase constantly by artificial means the amount of productive land when we already have more than enough available. The fact that these projects are regularly enlarged in the face of strong opposition is strange. Farmers oppose them. The United States Chamber of Commerce has frowned upon them...."

Living  
Budget

The Washington Star for March 20 says: "A family of five can live in Washington on approximately \$1,250 a year, exclusive of rent. That is the absolute minimum budget calculated by the Council of Social Agencies for a man and wife, a boy of 12, a girl of 9 and a child of 3. It is figured out on current prices for the use of charitable organizations directing the budgets of such families in an effort to put them on their feet. They arrived at approximately the minimum figure at which the family can live without sacrificing something essential to well being. It requires, for example, on 46 cents a day to provide an approved diet for a moderately hard-working man and only 37 cents for a moderately hard-working woman. The family can be clothed for \$7.49 a week, or \$339.48 a year, and they can keep clean on \$38.40. They can keep supplied with coal for \$4 a week during the winter and \$2 a week during the spring and fall. Some families doubtless live in Washington on less than that, but they are defying mathematics. The family welfare committee of the Council of Social Agencies doesn't present what it considers an ideal budget, but merely as one on which it is possible to live and keep healthy...."

London  
Wool  
Sales

A London dispatch March 22 reports that the second series of wool auction sales closed March 21 with offerings amounting to 8,360 bales. It was a medium selection and bidding was spirited, with prices in sellers' favor. The report says: "The sales closed with prices generally 5 to 10 per cent below the January parity. During the auctions the Continent took 43,000 bales, the home trade 36,500 and America 5,000, while 28,500 were held over."

New York  
City's  
Food

The people of New York City spend \$4,000,000 a day for food, according to Major Joseph Caccavajo, consulting engineer and statistician. "This is approximately \$2,800 a minute," he said, "and makes an annual total of almost \$1,500,000,000 for food alone. It is four times as much as is expended for rent, and twice as much as is paid for clothing. Fuel, heat and light cost but 10 per cent of the amount spent for food....In regard to the amount of various foods supplied to the city daily, Major Caccavajo said that 3,000,000 quarts of milk come from 44,000 farms in more than six States each day, as well as 6,000,000 eggs, which arrive from all over the country and from Canada, Denmark, Argentina, China and Australia. One million, three hundred thousand loaves of bread are used daily in the city. Ten thousand or more head of cattle and 40,000 sheep and lambs are killed every week in New York," continued Major Caccavajo,



"and more than 660 carloads of dressed meat and 250 carloads of poultry are included in the supplies sent each week. The people of the city use 40,000 bunches of bananas a day and 1,250,000 pounds of apples. We consume 60,000,000 pounds of cheese a year. Most of this cheese is produced in New York State." Major Caccavajo remarked that more than half a million people are engaged in supplying food in the city...."(N.Y. Times, Mar. 22.)

Paish on  
Economic  
Conditions

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal of March 21 says: "Sir George Paish, on occasion a distinguished contributor to these columns and Barron's, and a former editor of the London Statist, has been making the British public's flesh creep. According to a cable in the New York Evening Post he says that the policy of trade restriction, by preventing debtors from paying their debts, is bringing the world face to face with the greatest financial crisis it has ever seen. He even places the crisis in the coming spring and, at least partly because of 'safeguarding' in Britain and high protection here, he includes the United States where he says there are 3,000,000 unemployed. As there are half as many officially recorded in Britain and as he says that Germany is even worse off, he believes that the consequences of a crisis will be far-reaching. It may be said in passing that even if trustworthy statistics were possible under our methods, his figure of unemployment here would be difficult to verify. Sir George is incapable of saying anything he does not sincerely believe. He is also an old-fashioned freetrader, holding that view with an almost religious faith which could be paralleled by our old-fashioned Protectionists....Ten years ago Sir George thought that a return to a gold basis was impossible without debt cancellation. But the world has stabilized its currency on the old basis, somehow, and continues to do business in spite of tariff barriers, although these were multiplied in number. Sir George is on firmer ground when he speaks of overextension of credit, but even that is far from having reached unmanageable proportions."

Rural  
Schools

An editorial in The New York Times for March 16 says: "Governor Roosevelt in giving support to concrete legislation for the benefit of the rural school has recognized a handicap under which the farmer has labored in securing for his children the educational advantages which the Constitution contemplates should be within reach of all the children of the State. To some extent this has been overcome through the consolidation of districts, but that has been a slow process. There still remain nearly eight thousand (7,894) 'one-teacher, one-room' districts, with taxable valuations varying from less than \$20,000 to \$500,000 or more....Children in many of the rural districts, especially in those sparsely settled, are still at a disadvantage. It is one of the 'discriminations' against the farmer of which Doctor Galpin of the Department of Agriculture recently spoke. The only practicable way of obviating it is either by consolidating districts and so enlarging the unit of taxation, which is not always possible by reason of the topography of some of the areas of the State, or by increasing the State's financial quota. The latter is proposed as immediately necessary, for, whatever the





benefits of consolidation of districts, it takes time to bring independent districts together and to make the necessary changes in sites, buildings and equipment....Governor Roosevelt's recommendation is that the State quotas to these one-room schools be gradually increased, lifting the minimum the first year to \$1,200 for each one-room school, less the amount of the four-mill tax on actual valuation, and for each subsequent year by \$100 until the minimum of \$1,500 is reached, instead of making the whole increase the first year...."

### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

March 22--Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75-\$14.25; cows, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.50; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.50-\$14.25; vealers, good and choice \$13-\$17; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$12-\$13. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.25-\$11.70; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.50-\$11.85; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.50-\$11.50; slaughter lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.65-\$17.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25-\$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$6.50-\$8 per barrel in leading city markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 65¢-75¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-58¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$4-\$5.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Texas Yellow Bermudas \$4-\$4.50 per standard crate in a few cities. Maryland and Delaware yellow sweet potatoes \$1.40-\$1.90 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.75 in Chicago. New York Baldwin apples brought \$5.25-\$5.50 per barrel in New York City.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47¢; 91 score, 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 17 points to 19.62¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 19.07¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 20.81¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 23 points to 20.10¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 30 points to 20.12¢.

Grain prices: No.2 red winter wheat at Kansas City \$1.24-\$1.26. No.2 hard winter (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % protein) at Kansas City \$1.16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.21. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis), Chicago \$1.23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City \$1.13-\$1.15. No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 82¢-83¢; Kansas City 81 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-83 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-93 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 87¢-88¢; Kansas City 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-87 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago 47¢-49¢; Minneapolis 42  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢-43  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City 46¢-48¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 69

Section 1

March 25, 1929.

## FARM RELIEF HEARINGS

The Associated Press to-day reports: "Preliminary work looking toward farm relief will be undertaken to-day when hearings on surplus crop control legislation are opened by the Senate agriculture committee. The hearings will start without any specific proposals from President Hoover but committee members were confident that they would have the close cooperation of the President as their work progressed.... The committee's intention is to have a bill ready for the opening of the special session called for April 15 to deal with farm and tariff matters. In view of Secretary Hyde's inability to be present at the opening meeting, the committee will begin with Senator Brookhart of Iowa, as its first witness.... Representative Williams of Illinois, a member of the House agriculture committee, said yesterday: 'The President set forth his ideas of farm legislation in his acceptance speech and other campaign speeches and we, members of the committee, have no doubt as to what he has in mind. My own thought is that, with these general principles before us, we will develop a skeleton bill. We will cooperate with the President and the Secretary of Agriculture in its perfection.'"

## THE FLOOD SITUATION

The Associated Press to-day reports from Atlanta: "Drenched with rains and ravaged by storms the past ten days, the South took stock yesterday of the damage. Tornadoes and floods of Friday and Saturday caused at least forty-six deaths in six States.... With the exception of Tennessee and Kentucky, where major streams were rising, conditions were improving over the South. At Montgomery it was said that danger of serious floods on the Alabama River were past, with power dams on the Coosa River controlling the situation.... Damage to property still was unestimated last night, but apparently the total when reckoned will run into the millions...."

## PENNEY FORMS DAIRY CHAIN

A New York dispatch reports that organization of the Foremost Dairy Products, Inc., one of the largest dairy products companies to operate in the South, was announced March 23 by J. C. Penney, founder and chairman of the chain-store organization which bears his name. Although operations will be confined at first to the South, the business later is expected to extend to other sections.

## BRITISH MEAT SITUATION

A London dispatch to-day reports: "Fears for Great Britain's future supplies of meat are disturbing traders at London. Their apprehension is based chiefly on the diversion of South American, as well as British Dominion supplies, to the attractive market in the United States. Already, so experts state, imports of meat into the United States are necessary to insure consumers even a moderate meat ration. Canada sends all of her surplus stock to the United States and yet the requirements are not fully met..."





March 25, 1929.

## Section 2

Citrus  
Cooperation in  
Florida

An editorial in Florida Times-Union for March 20 says: "President Hoover, in his inaugural address, said: 'Our people have in recent years developed a new found capacity for cooperation among themselves to effect high purposes in public welfare. It is an advance toward the highest conception of self-government....' There is no better illustration in this State of what the President had in mind, or of application of what he said, than the Florida Citrus Clearing House Association and its recent work, organization of growers and shippers of citrus fruit and the putting into operation of plans devised. For years the citrus fruit growers of this State have gone along, except in a few instances, in a haphazard way, marketing their fruit without plan or system....Following the organization of the Citrus Clearing House Association, prior to the beginning of the present shipping season, and putting into operation the plans and methods adopted, improvement in the situation began to be observed and appreciated. But experience has proved that the plans adopted and the methods employed in the marketing of citrus fruit grown in this State are not yet perfect. The imperfections are not such, however, that they can not be supplanted with still more nearly perfect plans and methods....The Citrus Clearing House Association proves, in its brief period of operation, that its members have the capacity to assemble the machinery. What now is needed, it appears, is employment of similar capacity to get the association machinery in smooth and satisfactory operation. It can be done. Will the necessary efforts be put forth to do it? Florida fruit and vegetable growers can give the answer."

Cotton  
Exchange  
Rules

The New York Cotton Exchange announced March 21 a number of changes in its by-laws and rules, foremost among them being the new rule No.33, limiting loans by members to customers. The new rule, which becomes effective May 15, is as follows: "The extension of credits directly or indirectly to any person, firm, corporation or association, in excess of \$5 per bale and (or) exceeding a maximum of \$10,000, is declared to be an act detrimental to the best interests of the exchange, and is hereby prohibited...."

Dairying  
in Texas

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for March 23 says: "Last year the dairy-minded farmers of the Panhandle and Plains section of Texas held their first dairy show at Plainview and surprised not only themselves but thousands of visitors by its completeness. Just a short time ago the East Texas Dairy Association held its first show at Marshall, Texas, with similar results, and are now making plans for 1930. Beginning April 2 and lasting four days the dairymen of the Panhandle-Plains section will hold their second annual show at Plainview. It is expected that in numbers and quality of animals exhibited, it will exceed the first effort, for the people of this section are learning dairying as they already knew the value of good breeding in beef animals. Some outstanding dairy animals have been taken into west Texas. Many of them will be in the show ring on April 2. A dairy school will be held in connection with this show. The instructors will be men of wide experience in the different phases of dairying. Farmers interested in dairying should attend this school if possible."



Fruit and  
Vegetable  
Cultiva-  
tion

Arthur R. Weed, editor of the Ohio Farm Bureau News, said in an interview for the press of March 21 that increase in the population of industrial centers, the education of the American people in dieting, and modern equipment to allow more production per acre, had intensified farming in Ohio and adjacent States to the West to such an extent that the farmers were cultivating more fruits and vegetables and had left cattle raising and such industries to the States further West.

Herd Im-  
provement  
in Illi-  
nois

An editorial in The Illinois Farmer for March 15 says: "Knowing instead of guessing reduces the loss and increases the profit of milking cows. Every report of a herd improvement association shows amazing results of this work. A recent report of Fred D. Kasserman of the DuPage County Association shows where one member changed the net profit above feed cost of his herd of 19 cows from \$11.41 to \$77.13. Another member was feeding 480 pounds of grain per day, when, by balancing the ration and feeding according to production, 208 pounds would have been sufficient. The 31 members of this association have 700 cows on record. In January, 83 of these cows produced more than 40 pounds of butter-fat each, 32 produced more than 50 pounds, 11 more than 60 pounds, 5 more than 70 pounds and 2 more than 80 pounds. We regard the herd improvement association work of Illinois as the most important factor to-day in the development of profitable farm dairying. It costs but little and a single month's work frequently pays more than a year's feed."

Highway  
Beautifi-  
cation

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S. Dak.) for March 15 says: "The Vermont State Chamber of Commerce has inaugurated a highly laudable movement for the beautification of roadsides in the United States. This campaign is entitled to the cooperation of everyone. The Vermont association has made a survey of activities throughout the country and finds that many States are already encouraging roadside beautification. Several States are planting trees along the roads. Missouri has employed a landscape architect to study ways and means of beautifying the highways. Massachusetts has a State nursery where trees and shrubs for highway use are propagated. Tennessee has a law prohibiting the placing of advertising signs on the right-of-way of main roads. Arizona has succeeded in removing practically all advertising signs from its highways. Connecticut plants shrubbery and trees along highways. Idaho is constructing small parks at intervals along a few major highways. In several States, roadside springs are being made available to travellers. In almost every State some attention is being given to roadside beautification... The proposition has been discussed frequently in South Dakota but nothing has been done about it. The general feeling is that the more important thing is to build and maintain roads. We have been doing this in a large way but possibly there are certain details of roadside beautification to which we can give attention without extra expense of any consequence....Extension of farm groves would add to the beauty of the landscape, the comfort of the farmer and the value of his property."





Iodine in  
Farm  
Products

Manufacturers Record for March 21 says: "Conclusions of the South Carolina Food Research Commission, which has been studying the mineral constituents of various fruits and vegetables, particularly in regard to the iodine content, are described in advance as providing 'a most valuable contribution to the study of iodine and its relation to goiter.' After study of the analyses, Doctor McClendon of the University of Minnesota is quoted as saying that the use of the vegetables and fruits grown in South Carolina, as a part of the daily ration of those in goiterous sections of the country, would go far toward alleviating the trouble, as these products contain many times as much iodine as similar agricultural products in other sections."

Rural Ed-  
ucation

An editorial in Successful Farming for March says: "Only 25.7 per cent of the rural children from fifteen to eighteen years of age who are within reach of high schools avail themselves of the opportunity to acquire more education. On the other hand, 71.1 per cent of urban children of high school age take advantage of their high schools. Commenting upon this fact, a report of the Bureau of Education says: 'Rural dwellers can not hope to compete advantageously with urban dwellers for a living as long as their educational equipment is so generally inferior.' Rural children who do attend rural high schools are short-changed in time to the extent that only 12.7 per cent of them are in schools that are open 180 days or more; 76.4 per cent attend from 160 to 180 days; and 10.9 per cent receive less than 160 days of high schooling a year. City children are again given the advantage of longer school periods for 59.4 per cent of city high schools are in session more than 180 days a year. Only three-tenths of one per cent of city or large town schools are open less than 160 days. Spread these differences over four years and you will see to what extent the rural children have been short-changed in educational opportunities. Is it any wonder that so many have difficulties when they attempt to go to college? However, only 20 per cent of rural high school graduates attend college."

Women and  
Wealth

The press of March 24 reports that as the result of a survey of data from governmental and private sources, Lawrence Stern & Co., investment bankers, of Chicago and New York, have estimated that approximately 41 per cent of the individual wealth of the country already is controlled by women. Women, it was estimated, are to-day beneficiaries of 80 per cent of the \$95,000,000,000 of life insurance policies in force in the United States, pay taxes on more than \$3,250,000,000 of individual income annually, comprise the actual majority of stockholders in some of the largest corporations, constitute from 35 to 40 per cent of investment bond house customers, receive 70 per cent of the estates left by men and 64 per cent of the estates left by other women. About 8,500,000 women are gainfully employed, said the report and individual income tax returns indicate there are as many women millionaires as men.



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONSFarm  
Products

March 23--Livestock quotations at Chicago on heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.25-\$11.70; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.50-\$11.75; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.50-\$11.50.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.15-\$1.45 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 60¢-70¢ carlot sales in Chicago and 55¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida Spaulding Rose \$7-\$8 per barrel. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$3.50-\$5 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Texas Yellow Bermudas brought \$3.25-\$4 per standard crate in some large city markets. New York Baldwin apples \$5.25-\$5.50 per barrel in New York City; large-sized Virginia Yorks \$4.50-\$5. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6-\$6.25 in Chicago. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1.15-\$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East. Texas round type \$2.25-\$2.50 per barrel crate in Chicago and \$1-\$1.15 f.o.b.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47¢; 91 score, 46½¢; 90 score, 46½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 2 points to 19.60¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price stood at 19.19¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 1 point to 20.80¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 7 points to 20.03¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXII, No. 70

Section 1

March 26, 1929.

## THE SECRETARY RESIGNS FROM BUSINESS POST

An Associated Press dispatch from Kansas City to-day reports that Secretary Hyde yesterday resigned from the presidency of the Sentinel Life Insurance Company of Kansas City. He said his duties as a Cabinet officer would prevent him from giving attention to the affairs of the company.

## FARM RELIEF PLANS

The Associated Press to-day reports: "A start was made by the Senate agriculture committee yesterday on the drafting of one of the major pieces of legislation to which the Hoover administration has been pledged--that of farm relief. The committee assembled with a view of expediting its work so that a new farm bill, a substitute for the twice vetoed McNary-Haugen measure, will be ready for the Seventy-first Congress when it convenes in special session April 15 to consider the farm question along with that of tariff revision.

"The greater part of yesterday's meeting was taken up by an explanation of a plan by Senator Brookhart of Iowa. The committee also found time to hear a number of witnesses discuss the farm situation....The Iowan's plan contemplates a huge revolving fund of more than \$1,000,000,000 with which the Government would purchase crops so as to relieve the domestic market of a surplus and would provide a subsidy up to \$600,000,000 to take care of any losses incurred by selling surpluses on world markets at prices less than those paid for the crops. It would endeavor to establish the cost of production and would arbitrarily fix the prices of crops at a sum 5 per cent in excess of the cost of production.

"After Senator Brookhart had explained his plan, Senator McNary of Oregon, chairman of the committee, declared that President Hoover had spoken against price-fixing, taxes or fees, and any method which would put the Government directly into the agricultural business. He asked Senator Brookhart whether in view of this position of the President, he felt the plan had any chance of success. The Iowan contended that the bill would be approved.

"After Brookhart had testified, the committee called upon S.H. Thompson, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, to say whether the Brookhart plan would be acceptable to that organization. Thompson declared he could not pass judgment upon the measure because it had not been thoroughly studied. The farm bureau president said his organization still believed the equalization fee plan of defraying the cost of disposing of surpluses was the best that had been devised, but that his associates were willing to extend an open ear to other proposals. He contended that the big problem of the farmer is to find a workable way of disposing of surplus crops and that the farm situation could be improved by any sound legislation which would cause intelligent production, coupled with efficient marketing under regulations worked out by the farmer himself through cooperative agencies.

"In an endeavor to agree on a farm relief program, a group of cooperative organization leaders will meet to-day. If a decision is reached they will meet later in the day with the general farm organizations and then submit their plan to the committee..."



## Section 2

**"Brotex"**

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for March 23 says: "Word comes from England that a big corporation has been formed to grow and manufacture a new fiber plant called Brotex. The plant is said to be a hybrid, but its parents are not named. Its discoverers must have a patent on it, for they propose to license farmers to grow it. The fibers are said to be good for cordage, sacking and other coarse materials but not for clothing. Has the plant breeder given the world a new industry?"

**Cream Grading  
in Wash-  
ington**

An editorial in Dairy Produce for March 19 says: "Though a much discussed subject, cream grading, in <sup>all</sup> most every presentation, reveals something different in methods and results. It is noteworthy that every real trial at cream grading, regardless of the plan followed, demonstrates its value, and adds evidence that it is the thing to do in order to improve butter quality. Various plans are in operation but it seems to us that the plan being followed in accord with the law in the State of Washington is as encouraging as any with which we are acquainted and according to Wm. G. Eddy of Bellingham, that State, is producing wonderful results. The two features most responsible for the success achieved are: requiring individual plants to churn good cream and bad cream separately, and to pay a differential that is an inducement to produce highest grade cream....The Special cream is the kind that makes 93 score butter, or if that grade is not turned out it is the fault of the buttermaker...Evidently the creamery world can learn something in cream grading from Whatcom County Dairymen's Ass'n. It can also learn what a remarkable difference a good price differential makes."

**Farm Ef-  
ficiency**

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S. Dak.) for March 19 says: "The farmer is efficient. Figures prove this statement. Despite a constant decrease in the number of persons on the farms, there has been a steady increase in the production. Fewer farmers are producing more crops. J. C. Royle, in a Consolidated Press Association dispatch, discusses this. He says: 'To-day the farms, economists declare, could lose even more population to the cities and still produce all the foodstuffs required and a huge surplus besides. The change in feeling is due to the increased efficiency with which farming is conducted and the wide use of power machinery in agriculture.' Asserting that the farmer is inefficient is tommyrot, as any observer in the agricultural regions knows. The farm has been quick to make use of labor-saving equipment and to profit by scientific information on how to increase production. The figures show that, if anything, he has utilized this information and machinery too well. Worry about a scarcity of foodstuffs in the years to come is ridiculous. The rapid expansion of production in the World War when a special demand was made upon the farmers indicates this."

**Federal  
Land Bank  
System**

An editorial in New England Homestead for March 23 says: "In its annual report submitted to Congress March 1, the Federal Farm Loan Board sees much reason for encouragement in this big financial system....The 4,670 national farm loan associations







constitute the foundation structure of the cooperative Federal land bank system. The farm loan board is properly interested in the progress of these local associations and feels that every effort should be made by the board and the banks to strengthen and develop them so that they will serve in full measure the purpose contemplated by Congress when provision was made for their creation. In the past, the importance of the local associations to the system has not been fully recognized in some districts and the board and the banks have been endeavoring to correct this situation. Steps have been taken that will enable the banks to maintain closer contact with the associations, which is vitally necessary to their successful operation, and results have been very gratifying. In the bureau's correspondence with the associations, based on the reports of examination, the associations generally have evinced willingness to cooperate with the board in its efforts to improve and develop their operations. Instead of resenting more thorough examinations, there have been indications that they welcome them as evidence of increased interest in their affairs."

Fruit  
Industry

An editorial in The Pacific Rural Press for March 16 says: "Let's take off the gloves and handle this question of bananas as we find it. The banana is your big competitor, whether you are producing fresh, dried, or canned fruits. In 1927 we imported 3,300,000,000 pounds of fruit--92.5 per cent bananas. During the same year we exported only 2,000,000,000 pounds of fruit. Thus we imported 1,300,000,000 pounds more fruit than we exported. Now do you begin to see where overproduction is? It is not in your orchard, but is in the jungles of Central America, where peon labor produces bananas at a price below which American standards can exist. Not only that but these banana lands do not take our goods in exchange. Some of them tax our canned peaches until they cost a dollar a can. Life is primitive, wants are few, and wages are so low in bananaville that it is not a good customer for us. Banana land sends us ten times as much as it takes. In other words, for every \$10 worth of bananas sent to the United States these Central American countries take less than \$1 of our goods."

Land and  
Leisure

An editorial in Nature (London) for March 9 says: "... There is the vitally important question of leisure and its proper use. This has been hitherto a little neglected by economists, and yet, with the comparatively short hours of work now in vogue, it is a matter of the utmost moral and economic significance; the more so, in view of the increasing monotony of the greater part of the factory and office work of to-day, and mainly carried on indoors. These considerations point to the supreme need for a more natural and outdoor form of recreative work, such as would be provided by a land interest, as a powerful antidote to the present indoor monotony of work and the general artificiality of town life....We shall never be a nation of peasant proprietors despite the panegyrics of Mill, Sismondi, and others on that very admirable ideal; and therefore it might be advisable to look for something else, less drastic and complete, but more practicable,



let us hope. The suggestion has been made not infrequently in recent years that a partial return to the land would be the best, a part time recreative interest rather than a whole time occupation. It would be merely a modified and improved form of industry-cum-agriculture which largely characterized our economic structure in pre-industrial days, when the Lancashire weavers had their little farms and the Sheffield cutlers were noted for their culture of flowers. To-day it is a prominent feature in the United States of America, in Canada and other British dominions overseas, in many parts of Europe, and is struggling to make some headway in Great Britain, where, as already intimated, it is more urgently needed than anywhere. It means the provision of homes or homesteads worth the name, with gardens and perhaps even orchards and green-houses, embodying not only the primeval need of shelter but also the still more primeval need of food....It is strange indeed that the need for this sort of thing has been more clearly realized in the United States, where there is no preponderating town population and no 80 per cent dependence on foreign food; but it has been adopted over there not so much from the point of view of food supply but rather as a refreshing counter-current to modern artificiality and rush....Italy has taken up the 'dopo lavoro' (afterwork) or leisure question with enthusiasm in conjunction with home food supply....In Germany the great firm of Krupps some years ago purchased estates and farms for the production of food for its employees, many of whom became the proud owners of small holdings....Several firms in Germany and Austria have followed the example of Krupps. The municipality of Vienna has based its extensive housing schemes largely on this principle of ownership and land settlement....So far, only one form of combining industry and agriculture, farm and factory, has been considered. There is not space to deal with the converse form, that of giving the agricultural worker an industrial or rather a manufacturing interest, in the form of village and cottage industries and handicrafts. This is another chapter, and is a well-known economic feature in India, also in Switzerland, Norway, and elsewhere..."

#### Man Power

An editorial in The Illinois Farmer for March 15 says: "A farmers' institute speaker recently stated that a weak point in our present system of farming is that we do not produce as much per man as is produced in the industries. In some manufacturing industries, he stated, one man may produce as much as \$7,500 worth of product in a year, while even on our best farms it is doubtful if one man may produce more than \$5,000 worth. His conclusion is that the horse power used per man on Illinois farms must be increased in order to raise the productive capacity of each worker, either by power equipment or more efficient use of horses in larger hitches."

#### Nitrate Merger

A London dispatch March 25 says: "Early announcement of the amalgamation of the Lautaro Nitrate Company with the American-controlled Anglo Chilean Consolidated Nitrate Corporation is expected. This combination would control nearly half of the Chilean nitrate production. The report says: "It is understood that a new company will be formed by the Guggenheim group, from





which Lautaro Nitrate will receive preference or debenture stock, together with no par value shares."

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Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 25--Livestock quotations at Chicago on slaughter steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75-\$14.25; cows, good and choice \$9.25-\$11.50; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.50-\$14.25; vealers, good and choice \$12-\$16; feeder and stocker steers, good and choice \$12-\$13; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11-\$11.50; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10.25-\$11.60; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.50-\$11.25; slaughter lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.65-\$17.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25-\$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$6.50-\$8 per barrel in leading city markets; Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.25-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 60¢-70¢ carlot sales in Chicago. Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$3.50-\$5 per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Texas Yellow Bermudas \$3.15-\$4 per crate. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.65 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern markets. Texas stock \$2.50-\$2.75 per barrel crate in Chicago. New York Baldwin apples \$4.75-\$5.25 per barrel in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings \$5.50-\$6. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6-\$6.25 in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47¢; 91 score, 46½¢; 90 score, 46½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢-24¢; Single Daisies 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 15 points to 19.45¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 19.34¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 20.66¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 11 points to 19.92¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 6 points to 20.02¢.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (13% protein) at Minneapolis \$1.24½-\$1.30½; No.2 red winter, Chicago \$1.33½; Kansas City \$1.21-\$1.24½. No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.13½-\$1.17. No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis), Chicago \$1.21-\$1.21½. No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 90¢-91¢; Minneapolis 82¢-83¢; Kansas City 81½¢-83½¢. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago 91½¢-92¾¢; Minneapolis 87¢-88¢; Kansas City 84½¢-86¢. No.3 white oats, Chicago 46½¢-48¼¢; Minneapolis 43 1/8¢-44 1/8¢; Kansas City 48¢-49¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 71

Section 1

March 27, 1929.

## CHILD HEALTH DAY

President Hoover yesterday issued a proclamation designating May 1 as Child Health Day, urging associations interested in the subject to bring about a nation-wide understanding of the importance of conserving the health of youth.

## BUSINESS MEN ASKED TO FARM HEARINGS

The Associated Press to-day reports that some of the country's best known financiers, business men and manufacturers, all millionaires many times over, were invited by the Senate agricultural committee yesterday to give advice and assistance in solving the farm problem. Telegrams were dispatched to a group including Henry Ford, J. P. Morgan, Charles M. Schwab, Owen D. Young and Paul M. Warburg asking them to appear within the next few days to give the committee their views on the agricultural situation before the actual writing of the new farm relief bill is undertaken. The committee also invited Secretary Mellon, Governor Young, of the Federal Reserve Board; Chairman Lewis, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and President Green, of the American Federation of Labor.

The report says: "Previous to the decision to issue the invitations, the Senate committee heard a variety of proposals from several witnesses and a move was started among members of the House agriculture committee to obtain assistance directly from the administration..."

"Aside from what took place at the Capitol, a group of cooperative marketing organizations met at Washington during the day with representatives of the three major farm organizations. This gathering approved a legislative program to expand the Federal Government's agricultural credit facilities and while this decision was not considered as constituting a general farm relief plan, it was looked upon by the conference members as one provision that should be incorporated in the general program. The meeting, attended by representatives of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Farmers Union and the National Grange, along with those of the other cooperative organizations, agreed to a program which contemplates four revisions of the present farm loan machinery....The farm organizations also approved the principles of an adequate tariff on all agricultural commodities which could be benefited by higher duties as a part of any general farm relief plan. A tariff on oils and fats from the Philippines was specifically recommended.

"The proposed revisions in farm credits included the separation of the Federal Farm Land Bank and the intermediate credit banks, both now under the Federal Farm Loan Board. The creation of a revolving fund for the intermediate credit banks to permit loans for extension of cooperative warehouse facilities; the establishment of farm credit acceptance corporations, and changes in the method of regulating commodity loans."

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## Section 2

Agricultural  
Situation

Theodore M. Knappen writes under the title "How Diversified Is Our Prosperity?" in The Magazine of Wall Street for March 23. He says in part: "After seven years of prosperity, exceeding in uniformity, continuity and duration, any other period of well-being in the history of this or any other country, it is no longer permissible to speak of the golden age as some remotely ancient period. This is the golden age of America...Let us consider, first, the basic industries. It is generally conceded that on the whole agriculture has not shared in the emoluments of the seven fat years. On the other hand it appears that the position of agriculture has been improving, and that it is at the end of the long period of after-war readjustment, which was a much slower process with it than with the manufacturing industries. As a result of the war agricultural production and manufacturing production got out of balance. It followed that 'the cost of industrial commodities in terms of agricultural produce not only made agriculture unprofitable but in many cases forced it to operate at a loss.' The only solution was a slow one. With agriculture, 'production costs can not be cheapened by mass or continuous production methods, for the ability of the world to absorb agricultural products is, within certain tolerances, strictly limited. Thus, while manufacturing industries were in a position to increase wages and output and reduce unit costs and sales prices, agriculture could not increase its output without aggravating the distressing situation which already existed.' Agriculture had to mark time, to stand still, or recede, until the balance between agricultural and manufacturing production was restored. According to a study made by the Department of Commerce, from which the foregoing quotations are taken, this painful waiting process has been steadily at work since 1923. Agricultural output throughout the world has been stationary since then, while manufacturing output has steadily increased. The balance between agriculture and manufacturing has been reestablished. Agriculture will continue to have its ups and downs from year to year but it is no longer subject to a controlling and persistent adverse condition. It may therefore be said, as much as it is possible to say it of an industry that is so little subject to conscious control of its output and so much dependent upon the elements, that agriculture is now participating in the general prosperity. It is or is about to be in as good a relative position as it ever was except for short periods when it was more favored by economic events than industry--as during the war and immediately afterwards. Moreover, the outlook is that this year will witness the enactment of Federal legislation that will strengthen the position of agriculture as much as it is possible to do so by wise governmental aid....Prosperity is real, as widely shared as could be reasonably expected, and should continue without pronounced fluctuations unless the machinery for controlling and distributing a supply of credit that is equal to any proper demands that may be imposed upon it shall break down."



Industry "Last week the American Milling Company decided to contract for 1,500,000 bushels of soy beans at its Peoria, Ill., plant this year. The Toledo Seed and Oil Company is trying to get 300,000 bushels in Ohio this season. After the oil is extracted from the beans the residue goes into stock feed, for which use it is valuable just as linseed and cottonseed meals are. This soy bean industry is a comparatively new one but is growing. The price for beans at Toledo is \$1.35 per bushel, which is not high but sufficient to allow the bean crop to compete with the oats crop."

Chain  
Stores

H. J. Knapp is the author of "The Coming Battle of the Chains" in The Magazine of Wall Street for March 23. He says in part: "Chain stores to-day have several types of competition to face, and it appears that there will be still other types tomorrow. Competition from the independents might appear to be a thing of the past where the chains have already won a dominant position but this is not always true. The weaker and less efficient of the independents have been crowded out where the chains in competing lines have made the greatest advances but the more alert and progressive of the independents are now banding together for purposes of cooperation in buying, warehousing, credit organization, delivery service and other functions, thereby meeting the chains in some measure at least with their own chosen weapons. By adopting chain store methods so far as they can be used to advantage many groups of independents have taken a new lease of life and the chains can by no means count them out as powerful competitors....Where chains of any single type have gained a large measure of control in their particular line of business the fight among themselves begins. For example, when 50 or 60% of the grocery business in any city is in the hands of the chain stores it is clear that the different systems are fighting each other for business as keenly as they are fighting the independents. All the chains have practically identical weapons at their command, the same advantages and the same disadvantages, so that the effects of price wars and similar rivalries are apt to be equally harmful to all concerned. The result is apt to be a throw-back to competition in service rather than in price and we find many of the old standard chain-store policies being abandoned. Credit is extended to customers, goods are delivered, stocks are enlarged to include slower moving and more perishable goods than were formerly found on the shelves of the typical chain unit..."

Highway  
Beauti-  
fication

An editorial in The Washington Post for March 24 says: "...In the next 25 years highway construction doubtless will continue at a rapid rate, but in all probability special emphasis will be placed on beautification. A highway commission will no longer be allowed to cut through a beautiful section of country and leave that part which is most noticeable to travelers defaced with scars and broken ground. The problem has already been taken up in a number of the States. New Jersey plans to replace each tree removed in widening its roads with two new trees. Connecticut has undertaken to plant rambler roses, woodbine and honeysuckle vines over newly graded slopes."

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1891

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



Massachusetts is credited with having set out 60,000 trees along its State highways. Michigan and Indiana plant evergreens along their roadways, and a similar practice has been adopted in California. The question of billboards has occupied the attention of many States, and practically all of the legislatures have adopted regulations of some kind. But Nevada is the only State to prohibit erection of advertising signs where they will mar the scenery along the highways. All the States should imitate this example. The pleasure of motoring has been seriously diminished. Not even in the forests or on the countryside can motorists get away from the commercial atmosphere of shops, garages and machinery. Until the State legislators can be convinced of the value of restrictive legislation of this kind, much can be done by automobile clubs and business organizations....It is encouraging to see that the Vermont Chamber of Commerce has decided to make a national campaign out of its program for the beautification of highways. The movement is worthy of the cooperation of every chamber of commerce in the United States, and it seems that these bodies should be eager to give their help."

#### Industry Forecast

Industry and trade activity in the principal centers is being maintained at a higher rate than a year ago and there is no sign of a let-down in the near future, according to the March report of the Conference of Statisticians in Industry. This body operates under the auspices of the National Industrial Conference Board. The report sets out that the pace of industrial activity lately has been established by the automobile industry, which in February broke all monthly records. That industry's output, it is indicated, is evidently being absorbed by an active consumer demand. New car registrations in January were 53.5 per cent higher than in the same month a year ago, 27 per cent higher than in January, 1927, and 4 per cent higher than in the corresponding month of the peak year, which was 1926. The conference board reported that a high rate of activity prevailed in the automotive, iron and steel, machine tool and farm machinery industries, as well as in electrical and textile manufactures in February. (Press, Mar. 25.)

#### Milk

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for March 23 says: "Dr. George Walker, of Baltimore, a scientist who has devoted a great deal of time to the study of foods and the needs of the human body, is a strong advocate of more milk for American citizens. He says that every child should drink at least one quart per day and that every adult should drink at least a pint. Doctor Walker does not advocate the drinking of milk for the butterfat which it contains, but suggests milk as a major part of the diet because of the mineral products and other solids it contains. He says many Americans think they are eating a well-balanced ration when they are missing the most vital elements necessary for the maintenance of good health, and that those elements are found in milk. If Americans consumed as much milk and dairy products as they should there would be less sickness and the people would have more energy and brain power. If they consumed as much milk as Doctor Walker suggests, we would come



far from meeting the demands with our present production. What the dairy industry needs is a constructive campaign in every town, city and community, in which the value of milk as a part of the daily diet is stressed."

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Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 26--Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (15% protein) Minneapolis \$1.22 to \$1.28; No.2 red winter Kansas City \$1.17 to \$1.20; No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.10 to \$1.17½; No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.21½ to \$1.22½; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 90¼¢ to 91½¢; Minneapolis 79¢ to 80¢; Kansas City 80¢ to 82¼¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 89½ to 92½¢; Minneapolis 84 to 85¢; Kansas City 82½¢ to 85½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 46½¢ to 47½¢; Minneapolis 42¢ to 43¢; Kansas City 45¢ to 46½¢.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 20.56¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 18 points to 19.74¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 20 points to 19.82¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 11 points to 19.34¢. On the corresponding day last season the price was 19.34¢.

Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.75 to \$14; cows, good and choice \$9 to \$11; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12.25 to \$14; vealers, good and choice \$11.50 to \$15.50; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice \$12 to \$13; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11 to \$11.50; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10 to \$11.50; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25 to \$11 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.40 to \$17.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13.25 to \$16.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes closed at \$6.50-\$7.50 per barrel in terminal markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 60¢-70¢ on the Chicago carlot market. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.60-\$1.75 in the Middle West. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$3.15-\$3.75 per standard crate in consuming centers; Crystal White Wax \$3-\$3.75. Best midwestern sacked yellow onions sold at \$3.50 to \$5 per 100 pounds. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.50 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas flat and round stock \$40-\$45 bulk per ton in midwestern markets; mostly \$12 f.o.b.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 47½¢; 91 score, 47¼¢; 90 score, 47¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢-25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 72

Section 1

March 28, 1929.

## FARM RELIEF HEARINGS

The press to-day reports: "The full committee machinery of Congress bent to its task yesterday of getting aid for the farmer. House agriculturists joined the Senate committee in obtaining the last word from the agrarian sufferers preparatory to presenting a complete panacea to Congress at its special session beginning April 15.

"The Senate committee yesterday heard M. P. Hill, president of the National Farmers and Grain Dealers Association; G. W. Connell, secretary of the Minnesota Wheat Growers Association; Harvey Jordan, American Cotton Association; John W. Dillon, publisher of the Rural New Yorker; T. F. Lucksinger, Columbia (Nebr.) National Farm Loan Association, and R. G. Hetsel, Association of Land Bank Colleges. Mr. Connell said he would have the tariff made effective for the farmer and put him on a parity with industry. He suggested a stabilizing board for each commodity. Mr. Jordan would federalize every cotton warehouse and require sales by net weight and not bales. Mr. Dillon argued for orderly marketing, saying that the American farmer is now headed for old-style peasantry. Chester A. Gray, legislative agent of the American Farm Bureau Federation; George Shibley, representing independent economists; John P. Black, professor of agriculture at Harvard University, and former Representative Sidney Anderson, of Minnesota, were witnesses before the House committee....Mr. Gray, who has appeared before farm relief committees for years, said that his organization had not relinquished its plan for an equalization fee, but it would 'go along' with President Hoover if he had something better to offer..."

The New York Times to-day says: "Secretary Hyde has informed Chairman Haugen of the House committee on agriculture that he will be glad to appear before that committee and testify regarding the farm situation and measures for relief. Mr. Haugen said last night that he had received a letter from Mr. Hyde, who is now in Missouri, and that he had replied informing the Secretary of Agriculture that the committee will be pleased to have him appear at his convenience."

## THE STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day says: "Calmness after the violent storms of Monday and Tuesday reigned in the markets yesterday, stockholders regained their courage when it became evident that pivotal issues were being adequately supported and that New York bankers stood ready to supply all the money needed at the going rates. But money rates and the stock markets did not return to normal. Call funds loaned at 15 per cent and time funds advanced to  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The demoralized and hysterical selling of the previous day was ended and stocks as a whole swung along in a vigorous rally which put them from a point or so to more than 18 above the previous close. Agricultural commodities, too, following the improvement in the securities market, and the moderate relaxation of the money squeeze, pointed upward and regained most of their recent losses...."



## Section 2

Home Economics      A Chicago dispatch to The Philadelphia Ledger for March 27 says: "After 100 years of hit-or-miss dish washing, this most onerous of housewife's duties has been subjected to science at the University of Chicago....In a thesis written by Miss Nellie Vedders, three dish-washing methods are recommended. The slowest requires thirty-eight minutes eight seconds and 1,954 motions for a whole day's dishes in a normal family of four, in which one woman does all the work. The fastest requires twenty-two minutes thirty-one seconds and 1,015 motions. Miss Vedder for six months repeatedly went through all the processes for the three meals, from clearing the table to storing the dishes, while one helper held a stopwatch and another counted her movements....After washing, the dishes are placed in a round-type wire drainer and boiling water from a teakettle is poured on them for steam drying. Miss Vedder found that this natural method of drying is 100 per cent faster and more sanitary than the old drying. Handiness of materials and left-to-right methods, with work on the right and shelves on the left of the sink for right-handed people, are urged."

Milk Industry      An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for March says:  
In British Columbia      "A milk inquiry commission in British Columbia has reported certain recommendations to the legislature with the view of cutting distribution costs and stabilizing prices. The report recommends the creation of a committee of equalization to be financed by the industry through a direct charge on milk fat produced. Price regulation is to be effected, it is recommended, by independent distributors operating on the same spread estimated monthly as that found in the Fraser Valley Milk Producers Association. The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids and would vary according to season. The commission suggests that in this way at the end of three years the cooperative shippers would be gradually brought up to the point where all would be on equal basis through the operations of the committee of direction. Amalgamation should be encouraged, it is suggested, to reduce hauling costs. Two or three large companies and a number of producer vendors are stated to be adequate. The commission suggests that a proportionate share of the fluid milk market be open to all producers inside and outside the tuberculosis free area, providing they can produce standard quality milk and are so located that they can deliver for sale on the fluid market. Amendments to the milk act are suggested, with a review of the bacterial count, and competition among individual farmers is recommended on a basis of quality production and lower production costs."

New York Farm Survey      An editorial in Farm and Ranch for March 23 says: "During the last forty years, according to a survey made by Cornell University, more than 4,000,000 acres of once fertile land in the State of New York have been abandoned; that this immense acreage is being added to at the rate of 260,000 acres per year. The survey further shows that these acres were abandoned only when they became unprofitable to cultivate because the fertile top soil had been washed away, and in many places the fields have become ditched so badly that they have become worthless and practically beyond reclamation. The State of New York is now





encouraging the planting of trees on such of this abandoned land as will sustain them. The rest will lie out absolutely useless to either man or beast. Proper terracing a few years ago would have prevented this enormous waste. This abandoned land was one time conservatively estimated to be worth \$400,000,000."

#### Oil Supply

Professor R. B. Smith, Colgate University, writes on "To-morrow's Gasoline?" in The April Scientific Monthly. He says in part: "It is useless to say that the petroleum supply will fail in five, ten or any other definite number of years because such predictions have been made again and again and the coming in of a single gusher in a new field will entirely upset all calculations; but one thing is as certain as anything in the physical world can be and that is, we have to-day less oil than we once had and to-morrow we are going to have still less, because we can not 'eat our cake and have it too,' no matter what the average person thinks. Some day the domestic oil barrel will be empty--and then what?...A chemist of one of the world's greatest refining companies remarked that his company had oil enough in sight to take care of their refineries for many years to come, and yet the Geological Survey told us in 1920 that we had petroleum in the United States to last about twenty years more, that is to say that by 1940 our native supply would be practically all used. Such predictions have been changed from time to time, the limit has been extended, but already we are importing heavily from Mexico and it is believed by many, who should know what they are talking about, that we have already passed the peak of our production and are on the down grade....But granting that the oil is being exhausted and that the end will come some time, what seems to be the most likely substitute? It is, of course, impossible to go into much detail concerning the several substitutes that are possible, but they may at least be indicated, and of these alcohol is the first...Shale oil, distilled from the great mountains of shale in some of our western States, offers some most interesting possibilities for a future source of petroleum products. We need lubricating oils as well as motor fuel, and these shales will furnish them while alcohol does not... We have believed for years that if we could make coal combine with hydrogen and if we could get cheap hydrogen we could synthesize hydrocarbons like those found in petroleum. At last in the Bergius method such a process has been worked out and is being operated profitably in Germany..."

#### Potato Crop

A Boston dispatch March 27 reports: "The New England Crop Reporting Service estimated March 26 that about 3,418,000 acres of potatoes would be planted in the United States this year. This intended acreage is almost 11 per cent less than was planted in 1928. 'If yields for the United States are equal to the average of the past five years,' the report said, 'potato production in 1929 will total about 400,000,000 bushels. Maine farmers intend to reduce their potato acreage only 7 per cent, although potato acreage in Maine was increased 85 per cent from 1926 to 1928. Potato acreage for New England is expected to total 226,000 acres in 1929, or 5.4 per cent less than harvested in 1928. Decreases



in potato acreage are general in important States. Potato acreage in New York is expected to be 1 per cent less than harvested in 1928, Pennsylvania 2 per cent less, Michigan and Wisconsin 15 per cent less, Minnesota 16 per cent less, North Dakota 5 per cent less, Idaho 23 per cent less, Virginia 16 per cent less, North Carolina 80 per cent less."

Southern  
Progress

Manufacturers Record for March 14 says: "Sweeping over the entire South from Maryland to Texas and out to Oklahoma there is an awakening spirit which is playing a march to victory in business advancement greater than that ever won by any other section of America. Almost beyond the power of words to express or the human mind fully to comprehend, there is going forward all through this section a spirit of activity, of life, of energy, of enthusiasm. As men and money from the North and from Europe are pouring into the South to a greater extent than ever before, so southern people themselves, catching the inspiration of this movement, are preparing to redouble, indeed, perhaps to quadruple the energy they have put forth in the past. Great as are the achievements which the South has made during the past 25 years, they will all seem paltry by comparison with the progress of the next ten years. The man who lives for another decade will see a growth in industry and agriculture and in the accumulation of wealth and the employment of people, which will be rightly regarded as one of the most amazing of achievements in the upward struggle of mankind..."

Town and  
Country  
Residence

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for March 27 says: "Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute, considers great cities 'totally unfit for the proper sheltering and breeding of human beings.' As if by coincidence, a survey of housing by the Department of Commerce just now discloses a constantly growing migration of families with children to the suburbs. Scientific judgment and one part of popular opinion are in notable agreement. To complete the study, consideration must be given to the children who are left in the crowded cities. Perhaps the survey experts will now ask them whether they like parks and playgrounds and dislike being hit by automobiles."

Training  
Diet

A dispatch from London March 24 says: "The roast beef and beer, reputed to have made the British Nation what it is, is to take second place to green salads, brown bread and milk in the training diet of the Oxford boat crew. Hugh C. Morphet, the Australian president of the Oxford University Boating Club, has recently given much consideration to the problem of the best diet for his men. Benefiting from previous experiences with racing crews, he is about to dispense with some of the flesh-building properties contained in beef and beer, and substitute them with the vitamins of lettuce and other farm produce. The day of the centenary race with Cambridge is eagerly awaited in many quarters to see what benefit, if any, Oxford derives from the change."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

March 27--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.50 to \$13.75; cows, good and choice \$9 to \$11; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$12 to \$14; vealers, good and choice \$11 to \$15; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$11.50 to \$12.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.20 to \$11.70; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10 to \$11.65; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25 to \$11 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16 to \$17; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13 to \$16.50.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 20.67¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 18 points to 19.92¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 18 points to 20¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 12 points to 19.46¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 19.22¢.

Grain prices: No.2 red winter wheat Kansas City \$1.20 to \$1.22½; No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.12 to \$1.15; No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.18¼; Kansas City \$1.08 to \$1.09; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 89¾¢; Minneapolis 80 to 81¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 90 to 90½¢; Minneapolis 85 to 86¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 46¼ to 47¢; Minneapolis 42 3/8 to 43 3/8¢; Kansas City 46 to 47¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes closed at \$6.75-\$7.50 per barrel in city markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains sold at \$1.15-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 55¢-70¢ carlot sales in Chicago and 46½¢-49¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Baldwin apples \$4.50-\$5.50 per barrel in New York City. New York and Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$5.50-\$6 in Chicago. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$3-\$3.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$2.50-\$2.75 f.o.b. Crystal White Wax \$3-\$3.50 in a few cities. Florida pointed type cabbage brought \$1-\$1.75 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern cities. Texas stock ranged \$35-\$48 bulk per ton in terminal markets and sold at \$10-\$12 f.o.b.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46¾¢; 91 score, 46½¢; 90 score, 46¼¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25 to 25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XXXII, No. 73

Section 1

March 29, 1929.

## THE PRESIDENT GREETES THE SECRETARY

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Trenton, Mo., says: "President Hoover joined with the home folks of Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, in honoring the former Missouri Governor at a banquet at Trenton last night. The following message was received by Don C. McVay, toastmaster: 'In common with Governor Hyde's friends the country over, I am delighted to know of the honor his home folk are doing him. It is encouraging that men of the type of Governor Hyde are willing to give their time and strength to the public service. ....Herbert Hoover.'"

## FARM AID HEARINGS

The press to-day reports: "A revision of the Federal rural credit law as a means of promoting farm cooperation was stressed yesterday by witnesses appearing before the Senate and House committees on agriculture on the question of farm relief. Complaint was made that under present law cooperatives were unable to obtain short-time money, and this, it was suggested, prevented many from taking advantage of credit proffered by the intermediate banks. Owing to the rapid turnover of many farm products, cooperatives should be able to obtain credit on sixty-day paper instead of six-months' paper, as at present, the two committees were told. Appearing before the House committee, C. O. Moser of Dallas, Texas, general manager of the American Cotton Growers Exchange, advocated higher tariff rates and a strengthening of the rural credit system as a means of aiding the farmers....

"All of the witnesses who appeared before the house committee favored some plan of price stabilization. They were A. J. Cottingham of Stanhope, Iowa, president of the Ohio Grain Dealers' Association; Anson Marston, Dean of the State College at Ames, Iowa; William H. Marshall of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and G. W. Connell, secretary of the Minnesota Wheat Growers' Association. Mr. Cottingham said that in view of the results of the recent election it would be idle to discuss the adoption of the equalization fee. Formerly he had approved it, but had come to realization that some other method had to be devised. He advocated creation of a Federal farm board with a membership composed of representatives of the cooperatives. He thought also that there should be an advisory council made up of farmers. In dealing with farm relief Mr. Cottingham said Congress should raise the tariff on agricultural products. He advocated a revision of the rural credit system and recommended a separation of the intermediate banks from the farm loan board....

"Mr. Marston urged that in connection with the creation of the farm board provision should be made for a research bureau to make studies for utilization of products on the farm that now go to waste. Better marketing methods would go a long way toward solving the farm problem, Mr. Marshall told the committee. Mr. Connell suggested that any farm board that might be created should be clothed with broad powers with a view to bringing about expansion of the activities of cooperative associations..."

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## Section 2

Canadian Pulp Forest Survey      An Ottawa dispatch to the press of March 28 reports: "For the primary purpose of discovering exactly what pulp wood resources are at present standing in Canada, and to determine the extent of inroads made upon them during the past few years by the rapidly expanding pulp and paper industry, a conference of provincial representatives and experts with men of the Dominion Forestry Branch will be held in all probability in June. This conference, it is anticipated, will give statistical information which will show how long, at the present rate of consumption, the pulp wood forests of Canada will remain, or whether they will reproduce themselves with sufficient rapidity to make the supply of pulp material inexhaustible. Officials of the Forestry Branch, discussing the pulp situation in Canada as it exists to-day, stated the proposed survey would show to a close approximation what natural reproduction and scientific culture is doing to retain Canada's timber wealth, and the relative importance of forest replanting as compared with forest protection. The Forestry Branch is planting more than 5,000,000 new trees annually. This is a 'mere drop in the bucket,' the officials said. Really to achieve progress in reforestation it will be necessary to allow for the growth of 5,000,000,000 new trees every year. The simpler expedient, they believe, is to allow the natural reproduction to take its course and to protect by every means known to modern science the new growth throughout the provinces."

Cigarette Taxes      An editorial in The Davenport Democrat (Iowa) for March 25 says: "Someone with a penchant for graphic writing sends out word from Washington that Uncle Sam, not satisfied with making clothing from corn cobs and motor fuel from straw, is making millions out of smoke. That is just another way of saying that Government collected over \$317,000,000 as a tax on cigarettes last year. It happens that it spent \$318,000,000 to maintain the Navy, or almost the same amount. Now some people will tell you how much the Nation could buy with the money we spend for cigarettes, but that gets us nowhere, for no one intends to quit smoking cigarettes. You can be sure, however, that they will pay the cigarette tax and never think of it, so if you want to mark off the Navy cost and say, 'O, the cigarette tax will pay it,' you can do that very thing. We do a lot of talking about various economies, but the fact seems to be that we can afford to be extravagant, and that we go right along spending and paying our bills."

Cold Storage on Canadian Steamers      A Montreal dispatch March 29 states that a notable feature of the new Canadian National steamships, Lady Somers and Lady Rodney, is the provision for fruit storage, which allows the fruitrooms to be kept at varying temperatures, according to the needs of the product carried. Each of the vessels has storage room for 100,000 stems of bananas.

Purebred Livestock Counties      An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for March 23 says: "Whenever a county banishes scrub sires it deserves 'honorable mention,' and we are glad to accord it to Taylor County, Ky., where county agent C. V. Bryan has just succeeded in a campaign



for all purebred bulls. This is the fourth county in the United States in which all bulls are purebred. The others are Union and Russell Counties in Kentucky and Gaston County in Virginia. The South has been considered rather backward in animal industry, but it has all the hundred per cent bull counties."

Sugar Pro-  
duction

An editorial in Facts About Sugar for March 23 says: ".... Our reason for believing that the rapid growth in production which has added 8,000,000 tons to the world's annual supply in the past five years, or at the rate of 1,600,000 tons a year, is unlikely to continue is that the factors which brought about this great expansion will cease to be operative after this year. This will readily appear from an examination of conditions in the chief producing countries and sections. If we accept the estimate that this season's output of sugar will be 1,000,000 tons above requirements for consumption during the crop year, we can account for the excess wholly by the larger crop made by Cuba. Release from the official restrictions imposed during the past three years is expected to permit the crop to reach 5,000,000 tons, against 4,000,000 tons made last year. But there is no likelihood of a further increase in Cuba next year. Most authorities are agreed that a decline in the Cuban outturn next season is extremely probable. The great increase in the size of the Java crop in 1928, which probably will be followed by a much smaller gain this year, is due to a cause equally definite: the transfer of Java's fields to a new and higher yielding variety of cane. This transition is now complete and no extraordinary increase is to be anticipated after this season. Europe, together with Cuba and Java, has contributed to the great expansion of production during the past few years, but the European crop is now back to its normal pre-war basis...Outside of the three producing territories already discussed there has been no considerable recent advance in production, and none is likely in the immediate future for the reason that few if any of these countries can make sugar at a cost as low as the present world market price. With a crop so greatly subject to weather it would be rash to predict that there may not be some small gain in production another season, but we believe that no more big advances will be recorded so long as present price levels prevail..."

Synthetic  
Plant  
Food

Science for March 22 says: "Feeding plants on a synthetic chemical diet will be achieved long before human beings are in a position to subsist on concentrated synthetic foods, Dr. W.S.Landis, vice president of the American Cyanamid Company, indicated in a communication to the American Institute, New York. In fact, the day of pure chemicals as plant nutrients has already arrived through the use of concentrated chemical fertilizers. Synthetic nitrogen chemicals, such as cyanamid, urea and nitrate of lime, are blended with other chemicals, such as ammonium phosphate, potassium phosphate, potassium nitrate and other like combinations that place in the fertilizer nitrogen, phosphate or potash in a form that plants can assimilate. Plants can not live on these chemicals alone, as small quantities of manganese, zinc, vanadium, titanium and many other elements are needed, besides carbon dioxide and water, from which the bulk of plant foods are





manufactured by the plants themselves. The future fertilizers will be much more concentrated in the three common plant foods than even past history would lead one to suppose. The older organics of animal or vegetable origin will disappear to still greater extent and will be replaced by newer synthetic salts, mostly of inorganic nature. Process limitations existent to-day will disappear in so far as they eliminate essential plant foods, and the science of compounding will be greatly elaborated as we acquire better knowledge of plant requirements and soil deficiencies."

#### Wheat

Agnes C. Laut, writing under the title "Rivers of Gold," in *The Century* for April, tells the romantic story of our basic industry, wheat. She says in part: "If a resident of Mars could look down on our little planet with a super-penetrative vision, he would see flowing ceaselessly every month of the year over land and sea a tidal wave of pure gold--the purest gold in color known to man except the light that clothes the sun. He would see this golden tide tossed to the wind in restless waves from the plains of the Saskatchewan and the Mississippi to the Plata in South America, and from the Volga to the Nile and the mountain-shadowed rivers of India. He would see this great sea of gold converge to narrow channels belting the globe from the Pacific through the narrow neck of Panama across the Atlantic to Liverpool, or threading over the blue surface of the lakes from Duluth and Fort William and Chicago down to New York and Philadelphia and Baltimore and again across the Atlantic to Hamburg and to Rome. Ten thousand little rivulets and feeders from Argentine, from India, from Australia--all gold as the gold of the sun--he would see pouring into the main great tidal current across the Indian Ocean, the Atlantic, the Pacific. And if he asked, what is it?--this gleaming river of gold belting the earth--the Martian would learn that we call it wheat. If he had a knack for figures and took his pencil and did some reckoning, he would learn that if all this wheat thing produced in a single year were heaped in one pile and all the metal gold of the world mined in the same period were dumped in another, the wheat pile would be seven times as valuable as the metal pile. This is not a poetic fancy. It is a mathematical fact. The world needs something over three billion bushels of wheat a year--this it must have, although, if it can get it, it will take more. Put the value at one dollar a bushel--it has been higher for three years. The world seldom produces more than four hundred million dollars' worth of metal gold a year, and often less. Figure it for yourself. Yet more--he would find, this Martian onlooker, that the annual wheat crop of the United States was twice as valuable as all the gold produced in the world in a single year; that the wheat of Canada also exceeds this annual world gold in value, and that the wheat of India year in and year out is about equal to it. Again figure it out for yourself..."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

March 28--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.50 to \$13.75; cows, good and choice \$8.50 to \$10.75; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$11.75 to \$14; vealers, good and choice \$11 to \$15; feeder and stocker cattle steers, good and choice \$11.25 to \$12.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.10 to \$11.50; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$10 to \$11.40; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9.25 to \$11 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.10 to \$17.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$13 to \$16.50.

May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 20.79¢, on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 8 points to 20¢, and on the Chicago Board of Trade 13 points to 20.13¢. The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 10 points to 19.56¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price stood at 19.17¢.

No.2 red winter wheat Kansas City \$1.20 to \$1.22; No.2 hard winter (12½% protein) Kansas City \$1.11 to \$1.15; No.2 hard winter (not on protein basis) Chicago \$1.19 to \$1.19½; Kansas City \$1.08½ to \$1.09½; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 90½¢; Minneapolis 81 to 82¢; Kansas City 82 to 83¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 90¼¢ to 92½¢; Minneapolis 86 to 87¢; Kansas City 84½¢ to 85½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 46¼ to 49½¢; Minneapolis 43 to 44¢; Kansas City 46 to 47¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$6.75-\$7.50 per barrel in city markets. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4.25-\$4.50 per 100 pounds in midwestern markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.40 in eastern cities; few sales at 75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 55¢-70¢ on the Chicago carlot market and 43¢-45¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.50 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Texas stock \$30-\$40 bulk per ton in midwestern markets and \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$3-\$3.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; \$2.50-\$2.75 f.o.b. Midwestern sacked yellow varieties closed at \$3.50-\$5 per 100 pounds in terminal markets. New York Baldwin apples, some fair condition, sold in New York City at \$4-\$5 per barrel. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6 in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46¢; 91 score, 45¾¢; 90 score, 45½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25 to 25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXII, No. 74

Section 1

March 30, 1929.

## FARM AID HEARINGS

The appointment by the President of a Federal board which would be charged with the duty of considering problems peculiar to agriculture and submitting its conclusions on the subject to Congress from time <sup>to time</sup> /was recommended yesterday by

William Butterworth, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, when he appeared before the Senate agriculture committee. Mr. Butterworth presented a report on the farm question that he said had been prepared after years of study of the agricultural problem by the chamber's staff, which included the findings of nine regional conferences held by the chamber during 1925 and 1926, bringing together 1,056 representatives of agriculture and other business and industry from forty States. Mr. Butterworth said the Federal board the report recommended "could inaugurate research into the problem of control and distribution of surplus production, direct its attention to the formulation of far-sighted policies for the most economical utilization of our lands, stimulate effort to the end of expanding foreign and domestic markets for agricultural products and develop new uses for farm products, by-products and wastes..."

C. Clemens Horst of California told the committee he was not hopeful that any farm relief measure could be passed during the special session. G. S. Ralston of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, representing the National Potato Institute, urged the passage of the McNary bill. Ben C. Marsh of Washington said the farm problem would not be solved by further credits, nor additional tariffs, or export bounties, but by efficient business organization. Senator Brookhart argued that the Government Wheat Corporation had aided the farmers, while Senator Norbeck made a counter-argument.

When the Senate committee adjourned yesterday all the out-of-town witnesses had been heard, and Chairman McNary decided to recess over to-day and resume on Monday. While various witnesses have submitted ideas on the general economic situation, no plan on which all factions could agree has been presented. (Press, Mar.30)

The House agriculture committee began its hearings early yesterday morning and held a night session for the benefit of some witnesses. Gray Silver, vice president of the Fruit and Vegetable Growers, advocated an expansion of rural credits in any farm relief measure that might be reported. I. H. Hull, manager of the Indiana Farm Bureau purchasing department, recommended a provision authorizing loans to farm buying cooperative associations. Such loans, he said, should be secured by goods in transit. G. S. Ralston, representing the Virginia Produce Exchange, urged the creation of a farm board as an agency for better marketing. The farm board plan was supported by John Vesecky, president of the Kansas Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association. C. H. Holman, secretary of the National Cooperative Milk Producers Association, favored the handling of a farmers' fund through the intermediate banks. (Press, Mar. 30.)

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## Section 2

Australian  
Agricul-  
ture

Annie Osborn, a native Australian, now living in California, writes of "White Australia" in The Century Magazine for April. She says in part: "Australia has an almost incredibly huge reservoir of ever-recurring wealth, from the countless sheep-runs where the finest wool in the world is annually shorn in great quantities; from the immense cattle stations in the northern half of the continent; from Tasmania's ideal conditions for apple-growing and the southern half of the mainland for citrus and other fruits; from Queensland's prolific industry in sugar, bananas and pineapples; from dairying under the easiest conditions in the world in Victoria and New South Wales; from the golden granaries of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia; from scores of other sources as well as from the, as yet scarcely-touched, hardwood forests where some of the most exquisite woods in existence await the cabinet-makers of the world, and from our mineral resources which are as varied as they are boundless. Even our pests turn to our advantage. The rabbit, which is so hated that it is a felony to harbor one as a pet, is yet so valuable that the United States alone pays us over \$10,000,000 annually for its pelt! For the proper exploitation of this wealth, Australia needs two things urgently: a greater population, and good roads. Our island is so nearly the same size as the United States that the difference is negligible, while our population is scarcely larger than that of California....An ever-present problem is how to persuade young men to stay on the farms on which they were bred....The situation is admittedly serious. About one half the total population of Australia is to be found in the six capital cities--Sydney, with its 1,250,000, and Melbourne with its even million, being far and away the most populous. Possibly another million is to be found in the various cities and towns elsewhere, and this leaves the burden of the vital producing interests upon far too small a number of people; but until the roads are built that will enable people to annihilate distance, they will continue to choose to live in the cities where they can enjoy the comforts and pleasures of urban life..."

Farm  
Colonies

Application to the South of the principles of reclamation and development of coordinated farm communities offers a way out to southern farmers who are suffering from the disadvantages of an unorganized rural life and whose positions seem otherwise quite hopeless, in the opinion of Dr. E. C. Branson, Kenan professor of rural economics at the University of North Carolina, an economic investigator of the Southern Reclamation Conference, cooperating with the Reclamation Bureau of the Federal Department of the Interior. His findings were recently made public by the Reclamation Bureau. Doctor Branson finds farming in these communities at a low ebb. The elements that have contributed to this situation are the one-crop system, the settlement of farmers on solitary homesteads, illiteracy, the poverty of the tenant farmer, hand-to-mouth living. "It is difficult," Doctor Branson says, "to make farming a profitable business. It is even more difficult to make farming a satisfactory way of life. Both ideals call for farm owners grouped in colonies and busy solving together the economic and social problems of farm life and livelihood. Planned





rural settlements," he continues, "are a distinct advance in community organization. The area of land on which a colony would be founded would be large enough to give it an agriculture independent of that of the surrounding country. That would mean land enough for at least 200 farms....It is fairly easy to find in any southern State advantageously located bodies of prime farm land ranging from 8,000 to 15,000 acres belonging to single owners. In a State like North Carolina, which contains 22,000,000 idle wilderness acres, there are 15,000,000 acres which were once the best farm lands of the State. These conditions exist in every other southern State, even more pronouncedly than in North Carolina...."

Gasoline  
Tax

The Wall Street Journal for March 29 says: "New York may shortly be among the States imposing a tax on gasoline. Probably a reasonable gasoline tax, strictly devoted to the one purpose of highway improvement, would be cheerfully met by motorists. But if the State sees fit to impose such a tax the people should take note of the disposition in many States after the tax is once imposed to begin increasing it and carrying it beyond all reason, in some cases to divert a considerable portion of the funds collected to other than highway uses...."

Northwestern  
Progress

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for April entitled "The New Northwest" says: "The change in the attitude of the Northwest is one of the most remarkable developments of recent years. Nothing quite like it has occurred in this country before. Only a little while back the Northwest stood out as a seat of discontent, fiercely divided within itself, a numerous group restless and bitter with a sense of wrong, which it sought to redress through experiments in government strange to American institutions. That state of mind has passed. It has been replaced by an unusual spirit of self-dependence, by a willingness of once-warring interests to work together for the common good. The returns are now coming in. The striking advance in Montana agriculture, with its decreasing costs and increasing output per man, is one of them. It began with a faith that men could prosper on Montana land if they went about it right. This faith was assisted in a very practical way, starting with a careful accumulation of all possible information about the State's agriculture and the conditions affecting it. With these facts as a background, a series of six district conferences was arranged, one for each of the rather distinct agricultural areas of the State. Before they were held committees on crops, livestock, dairying and other farming lines were appointed to study local conditions, opportunities and practices that were giving good results. Farmers, stockmen, farm women and leading business men made up these committees, more than 2,000 of them taking part in the work of the conferences. It was, with little doubt, the most thorough analysis of a State's farming potentialities ever made. Out of it came an agricultural program for Montana, based upon facts. Nor did the idea stop there. It was carried on back to the local communities. The now famous Fergus County plan of self-study, of searching out tried farming practices that were working successfully and were adapted to local use, is only a sample of what went on all over



Montana and in many localities of North and South Dakota....The value of the Northwest's new spirit of aggressive self-interest was demonstrated at the recent tariff hearings in Washington. The farmers of no other section were better represented. This was because, nearly a month before, a Northwest Agricultural Foundation, made up of farmers, business men and organization leaders from Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana, was organized for that very purpose. Having done its initial job so well, this Northwest Agricultural Foundation is to be continued for further services to the region...."

Sugar  
Pool

A pool which will dispose of about 1,000,000 tons of sugar to Europe is being formed by American producers with interests in Cuba, it was reported in Wall Street yesterday. Officials of the companies reported to be interested would not comment. Among the companies said to be interested are Cuba Cane Sugar Company and the Cuban-American Company. The pooling arrangement, if carried out, will be one of the largest undertakings of its kind arranged in the sugar industry in recent years. (N.Y. Times, Mar. 30.)

Wisconsin  
State  
Farms

An editorial in The Milwaukee Journal for March 25 says: "Few people realize perhaps that the State board of control operates one of the biggest farm industries in the State of Wisconsin in its various penal, correctional and custodial institutions. These various institutions have about 4,000 acres under cultivation. Their revenue from farm products and livestock was \$436,000 in 1928, of which more than \$80,000 was profit. Their livestock inventory at the close of 1928 was 1,309 dairy cattle, 212 horses, 1,949 swine and 21,235 chickens and other poultry. This livestock was worth more than a quarter million dollars. Some of the dairy stock is as good as any in the State. About half of the herds are registered. Just think what this means to the 6,500-odd inmates of our institutions. Work on the farms gives them healthful outdoor employment. Milk from the fine herds gives them the best possible beverage. Fresh vegetables in the summer and vegetables canned by the institutions themselves for winter use give them the vitamins so needed. The profit from such an arrangement is large in health and not inconsiderable in money. The board deserves highest praise for the development of these farms and for bringing them to their present highly efficient state."

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### Section 3

Department  
of Agri-  
culture

Albert Shaw, writing in The Review of Reviews for April, says: "The new Secretary of Agriculture--succeeding that admirable expert, Dr. William M. Jardine, of Kansas--is Arthur M. Hyde, of Missouri, who made a splendid record as Governor, and is intimately acquainted with rural conditions and all the problems of farm life. He is undoubtedly a big enough man to appreciate the value of the permanent experts who head the different bureaus, agencies, experiment stations and research laboratories of the Department of Agriculture. This department is a splendidly working scientific and economic agency, engaged in making the





farmer's a true professional calling. It brings scientific aids of all kinds to the improvement of soils, crops, and domestic animals. Also, it labors to make the farmer more prosperous through informing him of local and general markets and supporting him in cooperative salesmanship..."

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Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

March 29--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$12.50 to \$13.75; cows, good and choice \$8.50 to \$10.50; heifers (850 lbs. down) good and choice \$11.75 to \$13.75; vealers, good and choice \$11 to \$15; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$11.25 to \$12.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$11.10 to \$11.45; light lights (130-160 lbs.) medium to choice \$9.75 to \$11.50; slaughter pigs (90-130 lbs.) medium, good and choice \$9 to \$10.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (84 lbs. down) \$16.25 to \$17.40; feeding lambs, (range stock) medium to choice \$13 to \$16.50.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at \$6.75-\$7.50 per barrel in city markets. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$4.25-\$4.50 per 100 pounds in midwestern markets. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.15-\$1.40 in eastern cities; few sales at 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 50¢-65¢ on the Chicago carlot market and 40¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. Florida pointed type cabbage \$1-\$1.50 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Texas stock \$30-\$40 bulk per ton in midwestern markets and \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$3-\$3.50 per standard crate in consuming centers. Midwestern sacked yellow varieties closed at \$3.50-\$5 per 100 pounds in terminal markets. New York Baldwin apples, some fair condition, sold in New York City at \$4-\$5 per barrel. New York and Michigan Baldwins \$6 in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 46¢; 91 score, 45½¢; 90 score, 45½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 23½¢ to 24¢; Single Daisies, 24¢; Young Americas, 25¢ to 25½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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